

MEMOIRS
OF
RICHARD PARKER,
THE MUTINEER;

TOGETHER WITH AN ACCOUNT AT LARGE OF

HIS TRIAL BY COURT MARTIAL,
DEFENCE, SENTENCE, AND EXECUTION

AND
A NARRATIVE OF THE MUTINY

AT
THE NORE AND SHEERNESS,
FROM ITS COMMENCEMENT TO ITS FINAL TERMINATION.

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MEMOIRS OF *RICHARD PARKER.*

SOME men require the notice of the historian in one way, and some in another. Biography is most pleasingly employed, when engaged in delineating the lives and characters of such persons as have arisen from the meanest walks of life to places of trust and honour, by the force of their abilities and virtues connected, and who have conducted themselves with propriety in situations to which, by birth, they had no pretensions.

It falls to her province, however, sometimes to record the actions of others, who have attracted the attention of the world upon them, not by their merit, but by their depravity.

These may be considered as the beacons held out to direct the juvenile adventurers on the ocean of life, what quicksands and rocks to avoid in pursuing their important, and in many respects, hazardous course.

We are now about to bring forward one of this description—to place an additional buoy in the channel of public observation—and happy shall we be, if any of our readers shall learn the lesson of prudence and humility, from the striking object held out to them, and pass by it with a mind more deeply impressed with a sense of virtue, and more strongly fortified against the wiles of temptation.

RICHARD PARKER was the eldest son of a very respectable baker, of the same name, in the city of Exeter, who is now living, and has for some years retired to enjoy a well-earned competency, residing on his own estate of about 200l. per annum, in the parish of St. Sidwells, and to which estate Richard was the heir. He left his business to his second son, whose line of conduct has invariably tended to relieve the mind of the parent from the pain occasioned by the behaviour of his brother Richard.

The unhappy subject of the present memoir was born about the year 1763, and was originally designed for trade. The building-line presenting a prospect of advantage, his education was adapted to that profession. He was accordingly placed under a Mr Coggan, an eminent schoolmaster at Exeter, where he acquired a pretty general knowledge of the practical mathematics, such as geometry, trigonometry, mensuration, surveying, and architecture.

He soon, however, disappointed the wishes and expectations of his friends, by conceiving an inclination for a sea-life; and no intreaties or persuasions availing to conquer this propensity, he was suffered to indulge it, and after going some small coasting voyages from Topsham, he procured a situation as a petty officer on board an Indian

How long he continued in this service we know not; but towards the close of the last war, we find him a midshipman on board the Mediator frigate, of which ship his first cousin was then first-lieutenant.

He distinguished himself as an active and brave seaman in this capacity, and had one of his thumbs nearly separated from the hand by the explosion of a cartridge.

On the termination of the war he returned to his father, where his conduct was wild and extravagant to the extreme; and having plunged himself into debt beyond his power to discharge, he got appointed as a midshipman to the Bulldog sloop of war, on board of which ship he afterwards served as acting-lieutenant, though he was never regularly passed.

When this ship was paid off, he again visited his native place, where he was not more remarkable for nocturnal revels, than for his exuberant loyalty; and it is remembered, that he has quarrelled and fought with men who, he suspected, were disaffected to the KING AND CONSTITUTION.

We are informed that he served also under Captain Riou, and that owing to some misunderstanding he challenged his Captain, and was in consequence discharged from his ship. After this circumstance, it is said, he went over to France, and was a spectator, if not an active agent, in what passed there in the time of Robespierre. This led to a suspicion, that, during the Mutiny, he might open a correspondence with the enemy.

On his return, he visited Exeter, where, however, he could not continue long, as his friends were soon obliged to desist from contributing to his extravagancies, in order to compel him to seek for an employ, his constant maxim being 'never to go to sea while there was a shot left in the locker.' He therefore left his paternal city in silence, and for ever.

From this time, to the present, the particulars of his life are rather difficult to be traced.

It is said that he engaged in the merchant service, and arrived, by his professional talents, which are acknowledged to have been creditable, to the station of chief mate. In this capacity, he sailed out of some port in Scotland, and there contracted an intimacy with the daughter of a farmer in Aberdeenshire, whom he married, and with whom he received a decent patrimony, which he soon contrived to get rid of in the accustomed way.

Having reduced himself to indigence, and run into debt, he was arrested, and thrown into prison, from whence, having no hopes of being extricated but by again entering into the navy, the high bounty offered by the county of Perth for volunteers presented an inducement, and he accepted it. His incarcerating creditor being paid, Parker was put on board the tender in Leith roads, commanded by Captain Watson, who carried him with many others, to the Nore. On the passage, Captain Watson distinguished him, both by his civility and polite address. That he is the same person is proved by Captain Watson himself, who, before he last sailed from the Nore

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for Leith, was ordered by the crew of the Sandwich to come on board, which he did, and was then introduced to, and interrogated by Parker, whom he knew on first sight. Parker also recollected him, and from this circumstance he experienced great favour. He ordered every man on board to treat Captain Watson well, saying, he was the seaman's friend, and had treated him well, and that if any man used him otherwise, he should instantly be—(Here he pointed to the rope at the yard-arm.) Captain Watson took an opportunity of hinting to Parker the impropriety of his conduct, and the consequences that might follow: it seemed to throw a momentary damp on his spirits; but he expressed a wish to waive the subject, and Captain Watson left him, having obtained permission to proceed on his voyage.

When Parker was brought on shore, his pockets were filled with papers, but we believe there was nothing material contained in them, except the proceedings on ship-board. When under examination before the Commissioners at Sheerness, he told them he should be able to justify himself, and hoped he had behaved with honour; he knew nothing wrong that he had done. He appeared very undaunted. Two leading gentlemen of the county of Kent saw him on Thursday preceding his trial, and were with him near two hours, for the purpose of endeavouring to trace the origin of the Mutiny, and whether any persons in London were in league with him. He declared to those gentlemen that the Mutiny originated, and was conducted, solely on board the ships.

At the height of his piratical success, he sent off an express for his wife and children to come to him from Scotland, telling her he should be the NAVAL OLIVER CROMWELL of ENGLAND. The poor woman arrived on the 16th of June, too late indeed to behold her husband's short lived triumph, but time enough to see him loaded with fetters, as a traitor to his country!

Parker's brother, who, we understand, is a respectable citizen of London, in consequence of a letter from the Mutineer, requesting a supply of money for necessaries, wrote him an answer which does infinite honour to his sentiments and feelings—He inclosed a five pound note, and delicately said, that *that* would now procure all the *necessaries* he would want! This obviously alluded to a *Coffin* and a *Shroud*. The letter to which we allude, was delivered to him in Court. The money was of course put into the hands of the Captain of the Neptune, Captain Stanhope. That humane and excellent officer went in the course of the evening to Parker, and gave him two guineas of the money, with a view that he should not want any immediate accommodation. We relate with sorrow the exclamation of this unfortunate man—'Well, I shall have a *roast godse* before I die.'

He wished, before the men who had been concerned with him, to appear the *hero* to the last, and we are concerned to say, that Davies and another of the Delegates, who were in *irons* on the outside of the door of the Admiral's cabin, audibly expressed a wish that *they* had likewise been condemned, that they might die with him.

He was confined in the Surgeon's cabin.—The utmost attention was shewn to supply him with every thing necessary in his unhappy situation.

ation. He was attended by a clergyman of the church of England during the whole day of Tuesday. He had been supplied with pens, ink, and paper, and all Monday night he was observed by the centinels over him to be writing. It is supposed he was writing a kind of history of his life—We hope, if it be so, that it will be a *beacon* for all sailors to avoid *mutiny*, as the rock upon which they must inevitably be *shipwrecked* and lost.

On Wednesday evening he was removed from the *Neptune*, at Greenhithe, and carried on board a gun boat to the *Sandwich*, at Sheerness.

The wife of this mistaken man on Thursday, June 29th, presented a petition to the Earl of Morton; to be delivered to the Queen, in favour of her unfortunate husband. Her deportment was becoming her unhappy situation. She was dressed in a black silk gown and white petticoat, a scarf mode cloak, purple shawl, a black chip bonnet, and a deep gauze veil. She appeared to be about forty years of age. An acquaintance, who came with her, took her away in a hackney coach.

CEREMONIAL OF THE
EXECUTION OF RICHARD PARKER,
FOR MUTINY.

[FROM AN OFFICER ON BOARD THE SANDWICH.]

Friday Evening, June 30, 1797.

THIS morning, at eight o'clock, a gun was fired from on board his Majesty's ship *L'Espion*, lying off Sheerness garrison, Vice-Admiral Lutwidge's flag-ship, and the yellow flag, the signal for capital punishment, was hoisted, which was immediately repeated by the *Sandwich* hoisting the same colour on her fore-top. The *Sandwich* was stationed rather above Blackstakes; the headmost ship of the fleet. The garrison, on the gun firing, were immediately under arms, consisting of the East and West York, and West Norfolk militia; a corps of Invalids; and a train of Artillery; all of which, with fixed bayonets, marched out at the Sally Port Gate, with their colours flying, and proceeded in single files along the South shore of the Medway, near to Queenborough, in order to be spectators of the event: all the barrier gates of the garrison were now shut, and each ship in the fleet at this time sent a boat off with a Lieutenant and a party of Marines, to attend the *Sandwich*. The crews of all were piped to the fore-castle, and the marines drawn up on the quarter-decks, to be witnesses of the execution. The Prisoner, who had taken his usual repast in the birth allotted him in the gun room, and passed the night in great composure, was awakened a little after six o'clock from a sound sleep by the Martial Provost, who, with a

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file of marines, composed his guard: he arose with cheerfulness, and requested permission might be asked for a barber to attend him, which was granted: he soon dressed himself in a neat suit of mourning, (waistcoat excepted) sent him by a friend of the name of Templar, wearing his half boots over a pair of silk stockings: he then took his breakfast, talked of a *will* he had written, in which he had bequeathed to his wife a little estate he was heir to; and after that, lamented the misfortune that had been brought on the country by the mutiny, but solemnly *denied having any connection, or correspondence with any disaffected persons ashore; and declared that it was chiefly owing to him that the ships had not been carried into the ENEMY'S PORTS!*

At half past eight, he was told the Chaplain of the ship was ready to attend him to prayers upon the quarter-deck, which he immediately ascended, uncovered: at his first entrance on the deck, he looked a little paler than common, but soon recovered his usual complexion; he bowed to the Officers, and a chair being allowed him, he sat down a few moments, and steadily surveyed the military array of marines under arms, round the deck: he then arose, and told the Clergyman he wished to attend him. The Chaplain informed him he had selected two psalms appropriate to his situation; to which the Prisoner assenting, said, 'And, with your permission, Sir, I will add a third,' and named the 51st, that beautiful confessional of David, and imploring of forgiveness, '*Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness; according to the multitude of thy mercies, do away mine offences!*' &c. He then recited each alternate verse in a manner peculiarly impressive. At nine o'clock the preparatory gun was fired from L'Espion, which he heard without the smallest emotion. Prayers being soon after closed, he rose, and asked Captain Moss '*if he might be indulged with a glass of white wine?*' which being immediately granted, he took it, and lifting up his eyes, exclaimed, '*I drink first to the salvation of my soul!—and next to the forgiveness of all my enemies!*'—Addressing himself to Captain Moss, he said, '*he hoped he would shake hands with him,*' which the Captain did; he then desired '*that he might be remembered to his companions on board the Neptune; with his last dying entreaty to them to prepare for their destiny, and refrain from unbecoming levity!*' His arms being now bound, the solemn procession moved from the quarter-deck to the fore-castle, in the following manner:

1. The Boatswain and Mates.
2. The Martial-Provost, his sword in one hand, and the halter in the other.
3. Captain's Clerk of the Sandwich, bearing the warrant of execution under the seal of the Vice-Admiral.
4. The Rev. Mr. Atherton, Chaplain of the Sandwich, in his robes.
5. The Prisoner in mourning, walked with a firm deportment.
6. The ship's Master of Arms, with his drawn cutlass.
7. Captain Moss and his Officers, with two or three other gentlemen, who were admitted on board. The whole passed through a

double file of marines on the starboard side, to a platform erected on the cat-head, with an elevated projection. Arriving there, he knelt with the Chaplain, and joined in some devout ejaculations; to all of which he repeated loudly *'Amen!'* The warrant of execution, addressed to Captain Moss, was now read by the Clerk, in which the Sentence of the Court-Martial, Order of the Board of Admiralty, and his Majesty's approbation of the whole proceedings, were fully recited, which the Prisoner heard with great attention, and bowed his head, as if in assent, at the close of it. He now asked the Captain, *'whether he might be allowed to speak?'* and immediately apprehending his intention might be misconceived, he added, *'I am not going, Sir, to address the ship's company!'* I wish only to declare, that *'I acknowledge the justice of the sentence under which I suffer, and I hope my death will be deemed a sufficient atonement, and save the lives of others!'* He now requested *'a minute to collect himself,'* and knelt down alone about that space of time; then rising up, said, *'I am ready.'* and holding his head up with considerable dignity, said to the Boatwain's Mate, *'take off my handkerchief'* (of black silk), which being done, the Martial-Provost placed the halter over his head, (which had been prepared with grease); but doing it awkwardly, the Prisoner said rather hastily to the Boatwain's Mate, *'Do you do it, Jack, for he seems to know nothing about it.'* The halter was then spliced to the reefed rope. All this being adjusted, the Martial attempted to put a cap on, which he refused; but on being told it was indispensable, he submitted, requesting it might not be pulled over his eyes till he desired it. He then turned round, for the first time, and gave a steady look at his shipmates on the fore-castle, and, with an affectionate kind of smile, nodded his head, and said, *'Good bye to you!'* He now said, *'Captain Moss, is the gun primed?'* *'It is.'* *'Is the match alight?'* *'All is ready.'* On this he advanced a little, and said, *'Will any gentleman be so good as to lend me a white handkerchief for the signal?'*

After some little pause, a gentleman stepped forward, and gave him one; to whom bowing, he returned his thanks. He now ascended the platform, repeated the same questions about the gun, evidently to gain the time he wished for the perfect completion of what he had preconceived in his own mind, then the cap being drawn over his face, walking by firm degrees up to the extremity of the scaffold, he dropped the handkerchief, put his hands in his coat-pockets with great rapidity, and at the moment he was springing off, the fatal bow-gun fired, and the reef-rope catching him, run him up, though not with great velocity, to the yard-arm!—When suspended about midway, by the elasticity of the rope, his body appeared extremely convulsed for a few seconds, immediately after which no appearance of life remained. It being tide of ebb, the starboard yard-arm pointed to the Isle of Grain, where scaffolding was erected for spectators on shore: a considerable number of yachts, cutters, and other craft, surrounded the Sandwich. The last time the Prisoner knelt with the Chaplain at the cat-head, though he made his responses regularly, his attention was particularly directed the whole time to the armed boats

of the Fleet, which were plying round on duty. The whole conduct of this awful ceremony was extremely decorous and impressive: it was evident, from the countenances of the Sandwich, that the general feeling for the fate of their mutinous Conductor was such as might be wished; not a word—and scarce a whisper was heard among them!

The instant he was visible to the garrison at the yard-arm, the Telegraph was put in motion to announce it to the Admiralty; and from the clearness of the atmosphere, and quickness of working, the advice must have been received in seven minutes. He suffered exactly at half past nine, and was lowered down, after hanging at the yard-arm a full hour, when the yellow flag was struck, and his body instantly put into a shell that had been prepared for it, with all his cloaths on; and soon after it was taken in one of the Sandwich's boats, and rowed to the East point of the garrison, and there being landed, was carried to the Naval Burying Ground, out at the Red Barrier Gate, leading to Minster. The coffin-lid was here taken off to the spectators for a few minutes; his countenance appeared not much altered, but his eyes were wide open: he was interred exactly at noon.

Thus departed a man, with endowments which all must lament were so unfortunately misdirected against the interests of his country. It is but common justice, however, to his character, to acknowledge, that his decent contrition, and candid acknowledgment of the justice of his sentence, have proved the best atonement within his power for his national offence. His last words of manly submission cannot fail to have a proper influence on the minds of British seamen, delivered by the leader of their common, but desperate cause; and that neither through hopes of mercy, nor fear of death. The whole scene of his last hours was of an extraordinary and interesting nature:—it was not the exit of a *Desperado*, nor of a discomfited Pretender; but that of a man who, conscious of the enormity of his offences, was resolved at the same time to maintain his fortitude to the last, which had led him to pre-eminence in the choice of those fellow seamen, who were now to witness his last exertions! He was not without a proper awe of the dissolution that awaited him, and therefore met it with those progressive traits of heroism, which best demonstrate a firm and gallant mind!

PEACE TO HIS REPENTANT ASHES!

He was a man of genteel manners, shrewd understanding, keen and vehement in his observations, very violent in his temper, but generous to the extreme when he had it in his power. In his person he was rather tall, well made, and of strong features.

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NARRATIVE OF THE MUTINY

ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIPS AT THE

NORE AND SHEERNESS.

THE commencement of this disagreeable business was on the 12th of May, and began in the Sandwich guardship, at the Nore, by her people getting on the shrouds, and giving three cheers, which was almost instantaneously followed by the other ships there, and at Sheerness harbour: the crews took the immediate command of their respective ships, appointed Committees, and *rove* ropes in *terrorem* from the fore and main yard arms; there was an immediate communication from the different ships, and they appointed the Sandwich to be the theatre of their deliberations; they accordingly appointed two Delegates, from each ship, to meet on board the Sandwich every morning at nine o'clock, which Delegates had power to act and represent their ships companies; and make known the grievances of each ship. In the mean time, the crews sent such of their Officers on shore as, they said, had, by their tyrannical behaviour, rendered themselves obnoxious to them.

On Saturday the 13th of May, there were four Delegates appointed to go to Portsmouth, and consult with their brethren there. The *Inflexible*, of 64 guns, which was lying at Blackstake, after receiving on board her guns and stores, unmoored, and proceeded to the Great Nore, setting at defiance a report that was spread, that the garrison at Sheerness intended to fire on her if she attempted to pass: as she passed, the crew gave three cheers, which was returned by the same number from the different hulks and vessels lying in the harbour, and at the Little Nore, except the *St. Fidenzo* Frigate, which the *Inflexible* perceiving, immediately fired a gun loaded with round and grape shot at her, which went so close to her head as to carry away some of her bob-stays, and lodge a part of the grape shot in her cutwater. The Captain then, to avoid effusion of blood, ordered the crew to return three cheers.

On Friday the 19th the Delegates returned from Spithead, with an account that a report having been spread of the French Fleet being at sea, the Spithead Fleet had deferred redressing their grievances in order to meet the enemy, and intended to resume the business when they returned. This the Sailors say was all the intelligence they received; in consequence they stated the grievances they wished to have redressed, which made Eight Articles. The Port Admiral (Vice Admiral Buckner) appointed Saturday the 20th inst. to hear them: he accordingly met the Court of Delegates on board the Sandwich, and after hearing the different Articles read, he declared he had no power to grant any of them; but he had no doubt but the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty would grant every thing reasonable. The two last Articles, he said, would require a length of time to discuss, and he hoped they would not protract the business by insisting on having them immediately settled. The Sailors then insisted on having a Board of Admiralty held at Sheerness.

The following is a correct statement of the demands of the Sailors at the Nore, just alluded to :---

' Art. I. That every indulgence granted to the Fleet at Portsmouth be granted to his Majesty's subjects serving in the Fleet at the Nore, and places adjacent.

' II. That every man, upon a ship's coming into harbour, shall have liberty (a certain number at a time, so as not to injure the ship's duty) to go and see their friends and families ; a convenient time to be allowed to each man.

' III. That all ships, before they go to sea, shall be paid all arrears of wages, down to six months, according to the old rules.

' IV. That no Officer that has been turned out of any of his Majesty's ships shall be employed in the same ship again, without consent of the ship's company.

' V. That when any of his Majesty's ships shall be paid, that may have been some time in commission, if there are any pressed men on board, that may not be in the regular course of payment, they shall receive two months advance, to furnish them with necessaries.

' VI. That an indemnification be made to any men who run away, and may now be in his Majesty's naval service, and that they shall not be liable to be taken up as deserters.

' VII. That a more equal distribution be made of Prize-money to the crews of his Majesty's ships and vessels of war.

' VIII. That the Articles of War, as now enforced, require various alterations, several of which to be expunged therefrom ; and if more moderate ones were held forth to the Seamen in general, it would be the means of taking off that terror and prejudice against his Majesty's service, on that account too frequently imbibed by Seamen, from entering voluntarily into the service.'

' The Committee of Delegates of the whole Fleet assembled in Council, on board of his Majesty's ship Sandwich, have unanimously agreed, that they will not deliver up their charge until the appearance of some of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to ratify the same.

' Given on board his Majesty's ship Sandwich, by the Delegates of the Fleet, 20th May, 1797.'

To the above demands the Lords of the Admiralty made answer, through the medium of Admiral Buckner (to whom alone the Sailors at the Nore are to direct their grievances) that, since all that could reasonably be expected by the Sailors and Marines had been already granted them, their Lordships could not accede to any such terms ; but that, notwithstanding their heinous conduct, his Majesty was willing to grant them a general pardon, and order the officers to bury in oblivion all that had passed.

After the Admiral had delivered a letter to the above effect to the Delegates of the Fleet, they were allowed only ten minutes to consider and return an answer ; in place of which they took to their boats, went into the harbour, and brought out all the gun-boats lying there, to the Great Nore : after they had passed the garrison of Sheerness, the gun-boats all fired at the fort, not, as they said, with an intention of doing any damage, but merely to shew they were independent, and not in dread of the fort. The determination of the Delegates, in consequence of the above answer from their Lordships, was, that nothing could be settled till three of the Board of Admiralty came down to Sheerness.

From the 22d instant they had no communication from Admiral Buckner till the 24th, when they received a second letter, repeating the offer of pardon to all who should, on hearing the letter read, return to their duty. The letter then recommends them to reflect, ' that they have pledged themselves to be perfectly satisfied with, and abide by, the determination of the Seamen at Portsmouth, who, sensible of the indulgence granted to them, had returned with alacrity to their duty, and were then in pursuit of the enemies of their King and Country. That it is hoped the Seamen and Marines at the Nore will no longer shew themselves ungrateful for all that has been so liberally granted, and which has so completely satisfied the companies composing the Channel Fleet : but, on

the contrary, that they will be forward in following so laudable an example, and cheerfully express their readiness to accept his Majesty's most gracious pardon, then offered, to them a second time, and to return to their duty like British seamen. Their Lordships further informed them, that they did not see the expediency of holding a Board of Admiralty at Sheerness, and that they did not mean to encourage a repetition of demands, by any further concession: also, that it then rested with the Seamen and Marines of his Majesty's ships and vessels at the Nore and Sheerness to decide, whether it would not be for their interest to return to their duty, and thereby avail themselves of his Majesty's most gracious pardon, rather than expose themselves to those consequences which must follow from their continuance in a state of disobedience.

After receiving the above letter from Admiral Buckner, the Delegates of the Fleet sent the following answer to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty:

'I am commanded by the Delegates of the whole Fleet, assembled in Council on board of his Majesty's ship Sandwich, to inform your Lordships, that they have received your letter from Admiral Buckner, which informs them, that it is not your intention of coming to Sheerness; the same has been communicated to his Majesty's ships and vessels lying here, and the determination of the whole is, that they will not come to any accommodation until you appear at the Nore, and redress our grievances.

RICH. PARKER, President.'

'By order of the Committee of Delegates of the whole Fleet---his Majesty's ship Sandwich, May 25, 1797.'

After the above was delivered to Admiral Buckner, to be by him forwarded, the Sailors resolved to place the different ships in a posture of defence; and in order to prevent any surprise, they, on the 25th instant, unmoored the whole Fleet, and moored again, formed into two lines of battle, with a determination of opposing with the utmost energy any force that might be employed against them.

Sheerness, May 23.---The Mutiny, which has so long prevailed at this port, has not yet subsided. The Sailors are determined not to return to their duty until the arrival of the Lords of the Admiralty. A large bunch of blue and pink ribbands is universally worn by them; their motto is, 'Success to the Delegates of the Fleet.' Two Regiments of Militia arrived here last night, which enraged the Sailors to such a degree, that they instantly seized upon the whole of the gunboats, and shewed every disposition to proceed to the most violent extremities. They struck the flag of Admiral Buckner, on board the Sandwich, and hoisted a red one in its stead, which was immediately answered by all the ships at the Nore and in the harbour, except the Mary yacht. The Delegates informed the crew of this vessel, that they did not wish them to join in their combination, but insisted on their giving three cheers whenever they should pass one another.

27. It gives us infinite concern to state, that the Mutiny at the Nore seems to have attained the most dangerous and alarming height. The Seamen appear determined to enter into open hostility against their country. This day fourteen Delegates came up the River from the Nore, to induce the crews of his Majesty's ships lying in Long Reach to drop down to the Nore. As soon as it was understood who these persons were, they were fired upon from a fort below Tilbury. At Gravesend they were taken into custody by the loyal inhabitants of that town: but having been soon after set at liberty, they prevailed on the Seamen of the Lancaster, of 64 guns, which lay at Long Reach, to join them, and that ship was expected to drop down yesterday to the Nore. This day, upon the news being arrived at the Nore, of the Delegates of the Fleet having had such a reception in the River, two line of battle ships were unmooring, for the purpose of being sent up, and of enforcing obedience to the commands of the Delegates, and resisting all attempts that may be made to detain any ships of war in the River. It is said that the guns at Tilbury Fort are to fire upon any ships which the mutinous Sailors may attempt to conduct either up or down the River. All the fortifications at Gravesend are manned, a troop of cavalry,

commanded by Lord Darnley, parade the streets and avenues of that place, and a furnace is erected, and put in order to heat balls.

The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty are arrived at Sheerness with the Proclamation of Pardon to such Seamen as will return to their duty, and threatening punishment to those who shall remain obstinate. It is as follows.

Whereas, upon the representation of our Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, respecting the proceedings of the Seamen and Marines on board certain of our ships at the Nore, we were pleased to command our said Lords Commissioners of our Admiralty to signify to the said Seamen and Marines our gracious intentions, expressed in our royal declaration, under our sign manual, bearing date at St. James's, the twenty-seventh day of May inst. [The Proclamation here recites the first issued, stating, that notwithstanding the sentiments of duty and gratitude with which the concessions made, and the pardon given, were received by the Seamen and Marines of the other squadrons, yet the crews on board certain ships at the Nore have not only, since the full manifestation of all these gracious intentions and declarations, been guilty of divers acts of mutiny and disobedience of orders, but have even proceeded to other acts of the most heinous and treasonable nature, by firing on some of the ships, in order to compel them to submit to their direction; have threatened and taken measures for stopping the commerce of the kingdom, passing to and from the Port of London; and have, by terror of their force, compelled two frigates to desist from executing a particular service which they were directed to perform---That it is his Majesty's intention, nevertheless, to grant to all that shall, on notification of this, return to their duty, a free pardon from all offences committed.] Whereas our right trusty and right well-beloved Cousin and Councillor George John Earl Spencer, our trusty and well-beloved Charles George Lord Arden, of our Kingdom of Ireland, and W. Young, Esq. Rear Admiral of the White, being three of the Lords Commissioners of our Admiralty, did cause our gracious intentions, expressed in such our declaration, to be signified to the crews of our ships at the Nore, and did require such crews to return to their due obedience accordingly: and whereas it has been represented to us, that some of the crews of our said ships have been desirous of returning to their obedience accordingly, but have been prevented from so doing by violence; and other of our ships, in the actual discharge of their duty, have been fired upon, and attempts have been made to prevent some of our ships from proceeding according to the orders of their Commanders: and whereas such continued perseverance in rebellious and treasonable attempts against our crown and dignity, after repeated admonitions and offers of our gracious pardon, rendering it necessary for us to call on all our loving subjects, to be aiding and assisting in repressing the same; we have thought fit, by the advice of our Privy Council, to issue this our royal Proclamation, and we do hereby strictly enjoin and command all our Admirals, Generals, Commanders, and Officers of our Forces by sea and land, and all Magistrates whatsoever, and all others our loving subjects, that they in their several stations do use their utmost endeavours, according to law, to suppress all such mutinous and treasonable proceedings, and to use all lawful means to bring the persons concerned therein, their aiders and abettors, to justice; and we do hereby strictly enjoin and command all our loving subjects whatsoever, not to give any aid, comfort, assistance, or encouragement whatsoever to any person or persons concerned in any such mutinous or treasonable proceedings, as they will answer the same at their peril; and also, to the utmost of their power, and according to law, to prevent all other persons from giving any such aid, assistance, comfort, or encouragement.

Given at our Court at St. James's, the thirty-first day of May, one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven, and in the thirty-seventh year of our reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

June 1. Last night some of the Delegates waited upon Commissioner Cartwell, and proposed terms of accommodation, which he told them he should attend to, if they were sincere; but that he did not chuse to be made their instrument to no purpose: and, to be convinced of their sincerity, he said they might go on board, and consult with the rest of the men, and, if he did not see them again, he should consider their proposals meant nothing, and should act accord-

ingly. Their chief proposals were---' That the impressed men should have two months pay in advance, and the King's full pardon for the offenders; and that the Delegates, five in number, now confined, should be given up.'

Upon their return, it appeared that the consultation they had had was not by any means decisive; and Commissioner Hartwell was obliged to decline any further communication with them. Their fresh provisions have been stopped; and the garrison, consisting of near 5000 men, are in high spirits, fully prepared and determined to act with effect, whenever they shall be called upon for that purpose. They last night took up two men who were distributing seditious papers, and, had it not been for the interference of the officers, would probably have sacrificed them to their resentment. The Tamar and Clyde have slipped their cables, and are gone under the protection of the Fort. The St. Fiorenzo has got out to sea, after being fired on by the other ships, and losing her top-sails. Six ships of Admiral Duncan's fleet have joined the disaffected ships, and the Red Flag is now universally displayed. The inhabitants have, for the most part, quitted Sheerness. The Fleet is completely manned, victualled, and stored for six months. Furnaces for hot balls are erected in the Fort.

A letter from Yarmouth states, that on the Cygnet cutter arriving there with the Delegates from the Nore on Board, Admiral Duncan took those men on board his own ship, and ordered the cutter at the same time to attend him to sea. To the ships that were tardy in weighing anchor, he sent a message; 'that they were cowards and lubbers, and, should he meet the Dutch Fleet, he would be better without them than with them.'

Several Seamen, supposed to be Delegates, attempted to make their escape, a few days since, in an open boat from the Nore. Finding both shores lined with troops, they went down and turned the North Foreland, pursued by a Cutter, and ran into one of the gates in the Isle of Thanet. The alarm was given---the Volunteers turned out. and they were taken.

Two Delegates from the Nore, George Rickettes, of the Tisiphone, and John Smith of the Proserpine, were taken in the Downs on Monday morning by the Vigilant lugger, assisted by the Deal boats, from a smack bound to France.

2. Admiral Lord Keith has arrived here, to assist the Port Admiral Buckner in the management of the Port at this alarming crisis. The Mutiny among the Sailors at this place and at the Nore still continues to rage:---they have just received a considerable addition to their numbers, by the arrival of two more of Admiral Duncan's Fleet, who, with twenty others, have at this moment the Red Flag flying at the fore-topmast head.

The road between Dartford and Chatham is patrolled by parties of Soldiers, who examine every one that passes, and have orders to stop those who cannot give a good account of themselves.

4. All communication is cut off between this place and the Mutineers, who have stopped several of the Maldon, and other hoys bound to London, and stripped them of their valuable cargoes of flour. This morning, however, the Royal Standard was hoisted on board all the ships, and at one o'clock, to our great astonishment, they fired the usual salute.

No person is suffered to go ashore, except the Surgeon of the Sandwich, whom they treat with respect, on account of the number of sick on board that ship.

Delegate Parker receives the same honours as an Admiral; and the Sailors in addressing him invariably use the term *Sir*.

The following are the vessels now at the Nore:---Sandwich, 98; Montague, 74; Inflexible, 64; Director, 64; Nassau, 64; Repulse, 61; Belliqueux, 64; Standard, 64; Lion, 64; Monmouth, 64; Ardent, 64; Terpsichore, 37; Iris, 32; Brilliant, 28; Proserpine, 28; Pylades, 16; Inspector, 16; Swan, 14; Comet, 14; Grampus (store-ship); Serapis (store-ship.)

5. Every tide three or four ships change births per signal, as if they had some intention of putting to sea.

Unfortunately the Mutineers have obtained abundant supplies of provisions from a number of vessels they have detained, among which are several victuallers bound to Lord Bridport's Fleet. The only ship known to have escaped pillage is the Brunswick West Indian; which sailed this morning for the Havre, with the following passport:---' Let the Brunswick pass, J. PARKER, June 4.'

It is said, that the Seamen, on hearing that Government intend to use coercive measures, agreed to call the Fleet at the Nore *The Floating Republic*; and that they detained a Scotch vessel, till the Captain consented to take an oath of *allegiance to the British Sailors*. On his departure, they asked him to drink with them, apologising for not having any liquor better than small-beer to offer---but that there was as much *friendship* in that as in any other liquor.

6. Last night, Capt Knight, of the Montague, with his lady, was suffered to come on shore on account of ill-health, on condition of Capt. Knight giving his *parole of honour* to return to the ship in four days.

The Mutinous Fleet was yesterday re-inforced by the Agamemnon, of 64, Leopard and Isis, of 50, and the Ranger of 18, all of Admiral Duncan's Squadron. At eleven, last night, the wind blowing fresh from the N. E. we were surprised by a heavy cannonade from most of the ships at the Nore. After it had lasted near an hour two ships anchored off the garrison, only two shot having reached them, and those had produced no ill effect. They prove to be the Serapis storeship, of 44 guns, and the Discovery sloop.

The Mutineers have secured 21 pilots from the merchant ships, which increase every hour; so that there will soon be scarcely anchorage sufficient between the *Nore-lights* and the *Black-tail Beacon*. In the mean time every possible exertion is making by Government---the *bays* between the *Nore* and the *Downs* are all cut away; no coasters are allowed to clear from the out-ports; cutters are vigilantly employed in preventing even Foreign vessels from sailing for the River; a Proclamation has been posted up, offering a reward of 500l. for the apprehension of Parker; and an exhortation from the sailors at Spithead has been circulated among the Mutineers.---They are said to have put one of their own people in irons yesterday for saying, 'that if all were of his mind, the ships would soon be carried over to France.'

The following is the Proclamation for the apprehension of Parker:

'Whereas there is reason to believe that Richard Parker, now, or late, a supernumerary Seaman on board his Majesty's ship Sandwich, at the Nore, and who stands charged with divers acts of Mutiny, Treason, and Rebellion, will attempt to make his escape from the said ship; his Majesty, for the better discovering and apprehending of the said Richard Parker, is hereby pleased to promise a reward of 500l. to be paid by the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury to any person or persons who shall apprehend, or cause the said Richard Parker to be apprehended, and brought before some of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, or Chief Magistrates of the county, town, or place, where he shall be apprehended, so that he may be dealt withal, and proceeded against according to law.

PORTLAND.'

'Richard Parker is about thirty years of age, wears his own hair, which is black, untied, though not cropt; about five feet nine or ten inches high, has rather a prominent nose, dark eyes and complexion, and thin visage; is generally slovenly dressed in a plain blue half-worn coat, and a whitish or light-coloured waistcoat, and half-boots.'

This morning they have stopt and unloaded two colliers, and after plundering the other vessels of their stores, have given them passports; one of which, we have seen, is as follows:---'All vessels under the command of the Delegates are hereby required to suffer the _____ to pass without molestation, to the Port of _____ by order of the Hon. President, Parker; T. Davis, Captain. On board the Sandwich at the Nore, June 4, 1797.'

The town is at this moment defended by upwards of 5000 troops. No person is allowed to pass in the stage and mail coaches, without giving their name, place of abode, business, and destination. Several instances have occurred of the soldiery firing at the coaches for not stopping immediately; and the cavalry have also made use of their sabres, where their challenge was not answered in good time. Ten o'clock at Night. Dragoons are coming in at full gallop from the adjacent towns, and the most alarming accounts are received every hour. We are told that the Delegates are determined to lay this town in ashes, if fresh beef, beer, and water, are not immediately sent them. All is at this hour terror and dismay.

Proposals to Government from the Nore Delegates.

At one o'clock this afternoon the Delegates of the Monmouth repaired to their own ship, and requested Lord Northesk, the commander, to accompany them on their return to the Sandwich. Lord Northesk, attended by only one officer, immediately complied, and found sixty Delegates assembled in the Admiral's cabin. Their President, Parker, asked who was the person that accompanied his Lordship? and was told that he was an officer of the Monmouth, who came to serve his Captain as a secretary in case of need. 'Who knows him,' said Parker? 'Say, Delegates of the Monmouth, what kind of a man is he?' The two Delegates answered, that he was a worthy good man, on which his presence was sanctioned by an unanimous vote. Lord Northesk was then told by Parker, 'That the Committee had agreed upon the terms upon which alone they would give up the ships, and requested him as the Seamen's friend to convey their proposal to the King, and to pledge his honour to return with a positive answer in 54 hours.' His Lordship said, 'that he would certainly carry their letter, but that he expected no success from such unreasonable demands.' The Delegates persisted, however, in declaring, that if all they asked was not granted, they would immediately go to sea with the Fleet. The following paper was then given to his Lordship:--- 'Sandwich, June 6, 3 P. M. To Captain Lord Northesk. You are hereby authorised and ordered to wait on the King wherever he may be, with the Resolutions of the Committee of Delegates, and are directed to return back with an answer to the same within 54 hours from the date hereof. R. PARKER, Pres.'

With these proposals Lord Northesk went to town on Wednesday, and after a short stay at the Admiralty, attended Lord Spencer to the King. On Friday afternoon his Lordship left town for Sheerness. The King has returned no answer to the letter delivered to him by his Lordship.

7. Few vessels now come up to the Nore; these are brought to, and mostly detained. It appears that no men have been executed, the figures repeatedly seen hanging from the yard-arm being Ministerial effigies. The Firm gun-boat escaped from the Mutineers by cutting both cables in the dead of night, and got safe into Sheerness.

The Lancaster, of 64 guns, was yesterday restored to her commander, Captain Wells, on condition of the King's gracious pardon being granted to all the crew. Captain Wells was at the Admiralty yesterday, and is said to have returned to the ship in the afternoon.

8. The Delegates have certainly deliberated on the course they should steer, should it be found necessary to put to sea. Some were for Ireland; others for the Orkneys; but one was base enough to propose an enemy's port.

The Mutineers begin to experience various wants. On Tuesday morning a party attempted to land, to procure water, but were driven back by a fire from the shore, with the loss of one man killed, and one or two wounded.

9. Several effigies continue to hang in the shrouds of four or five ships. The buoys and beacons being removed, and the wind blowing fresh at E. S. E. it is next to an impossibility for them to put to sea. Experienced pilots say that, in these circumstances, they would not undertake to put a ship to sea. Yesterday Capt. Knight, of the Montague, arrived here, the term of his parole being expired, and immediately went on board. On his approach, the crews of all the ships, except the Inflexible and Proserpine, manned the yards to receive him in form. The conduct of the two refractory ships being observed from the Sandwich, a message was sent to them; in consequence of which they complied with the general wish, and Capt. Knight was received with every possible compliment, while a full band of music played 'God save the King!'

10. In consequence of the Proclamation having been made known to the Seamen, several of the ships indicated a desire to return to their duty. This was violently opposed by the Delegates; but it was determined by some to take every step possible to get away. About half an hour past five last night, just at the head of tide, the Leopard and Repulse, all the fleet having their fore-top sails loose, cut away their cables, and drifted off. A heavy fire was immediately commenced on them by the Monmouth and the Monarch, of 74 guns each, which continued for upwards of an hour. The Repulse, of 64 guns, unfortunately got on shore

A NARRATIVE OF THE MUTINY

within reach of their guns, and thereby sustained some damage; but was at length got off, and, thank God, moored along side the Serapis, just off the Twelve-gun battery, at seven in the evening. The Leopard, of 50 guns, also got a-ground on the Middle Sand but soon after got off, with a few shot in her rigging, and her fore-top mast shot away. The Leopard arrived about eight in the evening in Sea Reach, just below Gravesend.

The two parties have had a severe conflict on board the Iris. In the first battle the blue, or loyal party, had the advantage; in the second, the bloody party, as the mutineers are called, were victorious, and a midshipman and five seamen were killed. A woman shot a midshipman through the head.

11. The Delegates, despairing of the accomplishment of their purpose, intimated yesterday to Admiral Buckner, that if mercy were extended to them in common with the other mutineers, they would return to their duty; and, in proof of their sincerity, the red flag was hauled down on board all the Fleet. When informed, however, that it was the intention of Government to make the Ring-leaders answer for their crimes, the Standard of Rebellion was again displayed. Capt. Knight is gone to town with the Admiral's letter, the answer to which will decide the fate of the Delegates. Most of the merchant ships that were detained have proceeded up the River.

12. The dissensions on board the Sandwich were yesterday very violent, and as each happened to gain the ascendancy for a moment, the Red and Union Flags were alternately displayed, till at length the former prevailed.

Captain Cobb arrived here this afternoon, and has brought dispatches, which are said to contain the determination of Government to accept of nothing less than unconditional submission. A communication was instantly made to the fleet, and, in consequence of it, Red Flags are now flying on board the whole.

At five P. M. the fourth ship in the line to the starboard let fly her topsails, and a signal was made for the Delegates to go on board the Monmouth, which was obeyed. For an hour after the whole fleet were evidently in a state of confusion, with long boats, cutters, and pinnaces moving about.

An attempt was made last night to blow up the Repulse, which must have succeeded, had not the suspicions of a loyal seaman, who was jealous of the whisperings of some who had been the most active in the mutiny, led to a discovery. When taken into custody, they boldly avowed their intention; and said, it was as well to be blown up, as to be hanged on shore.

Gravesend, June 16. This morning's tide passed by Sir E. Gower, with twenty-six gun-boats, completely manned and equipped, bound to the Nore, in order to act against any ships that may appear refractory. Ten gun-boats from Woolwich came down this afternoon: the Neptune is expected to follow.---The crews of some of the ships are still dissatisfied, but measures are now taking to prevent any bad consequences arising from their refractory spirit.

The Midshipman of the Standard, who was struck by one of the seamen of that ship with a pike, died this morning. The Coroner's Jury sat on him, and brought in their verdict Wilful Murder. A Coroner's Inquest has also sat upon the body of the Delegate who shot himself, and was brought on shore by the boat's crew of the Agamemnon, and brought in a verdict Suicide.

Sloewers, June 19. The mutiny has at length nearly subsided, ten more ships having this day made their escape. In the morning the Fleet was thus divided: the Sandwich, Monmouth, Inflexible, Lion, Grampus, Proserpine, Champion and Tisiphone, displaying the Red Flag; and the Montague, Standard, Director, Nassau, Agamemnon, Brilliant, Iris, Vestal, Inspector, Comet, Ranger, Pylades, and Swan, with a Blue Flag flying, as a signal of moderation. In this situation they remained till the turn of the tide, when the Nassau, Agamemnon, Standard, Lion, Iris, and Vestal slipped their cables, and went up the Thames without interruption; while the Monmouth and Director of 64 guns, and the Brilliant and Inspector frigates dropped into the Medway, under bur batteries. All the other ships have struck the Red Flag. Parker and his Co-Delegates are now on board the Sandwich. Nothing could exceed the meritorious conduct of the Repulse and Ardent, on leaving the mutineers line on Friday evening last. The former had more than 1000 shot fired at her, 30 of which hulled her: a Delegate boat, seeing her ashore, rowed to her, and, firing a volley of small arms into her, de-

manded her to surrender. The *Repulse* answered this by a shot, which sent the boat, with eight hands, instantly to the bottom! The *Ardent*, seeing the treatment the *Repulse* had met with, prepared accordingly, and, as she passed the *Monmouth* and *Lion*, poured a whole broadside into each, which killed one Delegate, six Seamen, and wounded seventeen more.

16. A great number of Seamen and Marines have been brought into Chatham, by the troops from Gravesend, and have been shipped off from Prince's Bridge, immediately on their arrival, to go on board the prison ship. The Marines that have been taken out of the refractory ships have a distinguished mark put upon them: as soon as they arrive at the barracks at Chatham, their hair is parted from the middle of their heads, the right side is then clipped, and afterwards clean shaved off; the left side of their face is shaved, leaving the beard on the right right side full grown; so that, in case of an escape, they might be recognized immediately. They do the internal duty at their barracks, subject to the scorn and contempt of their loyal comrades.

Another letter from Yarmouth, of June 17, states, that the Sailors in that port have been riotously inclined for some days past; but the picquet of the troops quartered there apprehended several of the ring-leaders, who are committed to prison. The Seamen afloat sent to threaten that they would come and deliver them, but the guard over them being doubled, they thought it more prudent to desist, and leave the offenders amenable to the laws of their country. By the steady conduct of the soldiery, and the vigilance of the Magistrates, order is perfectly restored.

14. The mutiny at the Nore is at an end, and the white flag flying on board all the ships, the crews having this morning surrendered at discretion. Some of the Delegates have escaped; but Parker, Davis, and a number of others, were this day brought on shore by a party of soldiers sent on board the *Sandwich*. Upon the submission of that ship, Capt. Moss went on board, and resumed his command; and soon after Admiral Buckner re-hoisted his flag, amidst the acclamations of his crew.

The way in which they were secured, was as follows:---At eight this morning, some of the petty officers, deputed by the loyal part of the crew, went to the superior officers, while Parker and his associates were holding a Council, and offered to submit. The Commanding Officer answered, 'Then you must secure Parker and the Delegates.' This was no sooner said than done, and the white flag was immediately hoisted.

Out of six Delegates of the *Leopard*, who were on board the *Agamemnon*, five were taken; but the sixth put a pistol to his head, and shot himself.

This evening the *Swan* presented a most distressing spectacle. The crew, who are divided into Red and Blue parties, turned the bow and stern chasers upon each other, and commenced an action, which terminated in a dreadful carnage, and in favour of the Red Flag. This morning they sailed, with the intention, it is supposed, of running the ship ashore, and making their escape.

It was not a Midshipman, but the Lieutenant of Marines, who was shot by a woman on board the *Iris*. The Lieutenant was very active with his men in quieting the disturbance on-board; and, finding one man particularly outrageous, cut him down with his sword. The man's wife instantly went below, whence she brought up a large pistol, walked coolly up to the Lieutenant, and lodged the contents in his belly, which occasioned his immediate death. She is in custody.

16. The suppression of the mutiny is now complete. The *Montague*, *Inflexible*, *Belliquieux*, and *Swan*, have at length submitted. A Gillingham fishing smack was brought to by the ships at the Nore, and his fish taken out and paid for; after which several persons, apparently Delegates, got on board, took the command, and sailed for the coast of France. About 24 Delegates and Committee men have escaped, twelve men and a woman from the *Tisiphone*, on Wednesday night; and ten or twelve more in the cutter of the *Inflexible*, early on Thursday morning, consisting entirely of the Delegates and Leaders on board the *Montague*, *Belliquieux*, and *Inflexible*.

19. Though the *Inflexible*, *Montague*, *Belliquieux*, and *Swan*, remain at the Nore, it is not in consequence of a spirit of disobedience, but from an order from

the Port Admiral. The ships of the line are scattered at Blackstakes, the Little Nore, and in the harbour, to prevent any communication between the crews till the fate of the Delegates is finally decided. Parker denies having been acted upon by persons on shore. Being asked if he had any evidences to produce in his behalf, he named three Delegates; but as they are all charged with a similar offence, he was informed that their evidence was inadmissible.

21. On Wednesday night, the 14th instant, at nine o'clock, a launch, with fourteen men and four women, from the Inflexible, at the Nore, boarded a fishing vessel belonging to Faversham, Hills, master, and taking possession of her forcibly, and without a possibility of resistance, obliged him to set sail, and steer for the French coast. On Thursday afternoon they arrived off Dunkirk, but not judging it expedient to attempt landing there, they proceeded to the southward, and reached Calais on Friday morning. On their attempting to land, the Officer on guard acquainted them he could not permit it till he had communicated their intention to the Municipality; which he did, and soon after they were ordered to be landed, and strictly guarded. On being interrogated respecting their intention, they declared they were compelled to leave their ship, and the service of Great Britain, from the tyranny and oppression they had suffered. They were told they must remain under confinement till the Municipality had received an answer from Paris to a message they had sent to the Directory, for instructions respecting them. Hills, the master of the vessel, was immediately supplied with a passport, on his representation of the compulsion under which he had acted, and the hardships and loss he had sustained; and received the most hospitable treatment during the short time he was obliged to wait for his release.

THE TRIAL OF RICHARD PARKER,

THE MUTINEER,

BY

COURT MARTIAL.

Greenbithe, Thursday Afternoon, June 22, 1797.

AT eight o'clock this morning, a gun was fired from his Majesty's ship Neptune of 98 guns, Captain Stanhope, at anchor off this place, when the Union Jack was hoisted, as a signal for the trial, and for the Officers to assemble on board. It was near ten o'clock, however, before the Court was formally assembled, and the doors were thrown open; when Richard Parker, late a supernumerary seaman on board the Sandwich guardship, lying at the Nore, was brought into Court in custody of a Deputy Martial Provost of the Admiralty, and placed at the lower end thereof, on the left side of the Judge Advocate; the Provost standing by his side with a drawn sword. The Court consisted of the following Members:

PRESIDENT, Vice-Admiral Sir T. PAISLEY, Bart.

Com. Sir E. Gower,	Neptune 98 guns.]	Capt. Laforey,	Hydra, 44 guns,
Capt. Stanhope,	Ditto.	Capt. Sir T. Williams,	Endymion, 36
Capt. Markham,	Centaur, 74	Capt. King,	Syrius, 36
Capt. Williamson,	Agincourt, 64	Capt. Pierrepont,	Naiad, 36
Capt. Wells,	Lancaster, 64	Capt. Riou,	Mary Yatch, 10
Capt. Lane,	Acasto, 44		

The witnesses were called into Court to hear the charges read. These were contained in the order from the Lords of the Admiralty for holding the Court.

The Prisoner was charged with making, and having endeavoured to make, a Mutiny amongst the Seamen of his Majesty's Ships at the Nore; with having caused Assemblies of these Seamen to meet frequently; and with having behaved himself contemptuously towards, and disobeyed his superior Officers. Captain Moss, of the Sandwich, was the Prosecutor.

Admiral Buckner being desired to relate to the Court what he knew of the Prisoner's conduct, gave the following account: The first time I saw any thing particular in the Prisoner's conduct, further than parading about on shore, with a number of people, and a red flag, was on the 20th of May, when I went on board the Sandwich, for the purpose of making known his Majesty's Proclamation of Pardon, on their returning to their duty on terms granted to their brethren at Spithead, which the men stiling themselves Delegates, with Parker, had previously declared they would be satisfied with. On my going on board with the flag in my boat, there was no preparation to receive me, nor respect shewn me. The Officers were without their side-arms, and had no command in the ship. Unwilling to return on shore without speaking to the people in the ship, I waited a considerable time, when Parker with others came on the quarter-deck, and said that none other but themselves (meaning, I presume, the ship's company) should be present there. He then tendered me a paper, containing what he called a list of grievances, saying, at the same time, that until these were redressed, and that until the Members of the Board of Admiralty attended in person to redress the same, they would not give up the power they had in their hands. Finding that every thing I had to say had no avail, I went on shore. On the 22d, my flag was struck on board the Sandwich without my orders. That day, while I was examining the complaints alleged against two marines that were brought in by a party of the military, the Prisoner, and a man whom they called Davies, with three or four others, came abruptly into the Commissioner's house, and demanded 'why these men (the marines) had been taken into custody?' He told me my flag was struck, that I had no authority, and that the power was in their hands. They then took the men away, as they said, to try them for being on shore. Another expression Parker made use of at that time was, 'that

he was not to be intimidated.' About the 4th of June I received a letter from Parker, stiling himself 'President:' it was signed 'Richard Parker,' and stated, 'that Administration had acted improperly in stopping the provisions allowed to the men, and that the foolish Proclamation was calculated to inflame the minds of honest men.' I have nothing particular to relate now as a narrative; I have had frequent conferences with the Prisoner at the head of many others, with a hope of bringing them to a sense of their bad conduct, without any good effect. The Prisoner Parker in general took the lead as their spokesman, frequently appealing to the persons around him, as speaking for the rest: he even appealed to them whether it was their wish he should do so; and prevented with threats one man in particular from answering a question I had put to him. He said to this man, 'If you don't hold your tongue, I'll take care of you.' I have to add, while I was on board, I once endeavoured to prevail on those who stiled themselves Delegates to remove the disgraceful ropes called yard ropes; their answer was, that the ship's company would not suffer it. Parker was insolent in his conversation, but often otherwise; there was often a great deal of modesty in his deportment, and apparent respect.

On his cross examination, he acknowledged that he had never seen the Prisoner in any over-acts of mutiny; and that he had endeavoured to apologize for his (Admiral Buckner's) not being received on board with the honour due to him, as it originated in some mistake; but he conceived that by making such apology, he must have some command in the ship.

Lieutenant Justice, second lieutenant of the Sandwich, knew nothing of the prisoner, and could speak only to the mutiny in general.

Capt. O'Bryen, of the Nassau; Capt. Harcourt, of the Agamemnon; Capt. Cobb, of the Lion; Tho. Parr, of the Standard; Capt. Watson of the Isis; and Capt. Harwood of the Leopard, did not know the Prisoner.

Mr. Snipe, the Surgeon of the Sandwich, said he knew the Prisoner, who was a supernumerary on board that ship. He never recollected him before the 14th of May, on the afternoon of which day he was ordered to attend a punishment of one of the seamen, whose name was Campbell; it was Mr. Bray, the Master, who ordered me, he having the command of the ship. He said it was the Committee's order that I should attend. When I went upon deck, the Prisoner was standing on the gang-way. As soon as the rope was tied up, the Prisoner made a speech to the ship's company, acquainting them of Campbell's crime. He said he had violated the laws laid down by the Committee, and he must expect to share that fate. This was the general purport of his speech. Two or three days after, one of the ship's corporals, whose name is Wilson, came to me in the ward-room, and gave orders that I should go immediately between decks, and visit a man in irons, who was very ill. I went immediately, and saw a prisoner, who was then in irons, with a fever. I sent the ship's corporal to the Committee, to say that it was absolutely necessary that this man should be taken out of irons, and put in the sick berth. The corporal returned, and said it was the Committee's orders that I should make my report first. I then went to the starboard side of the lower gun-deck, and there found a vast crowd of people assembled. I asked who I was to address? The Prisoner, Parker, desired me to address him. I told him it was necessary to remove the man in irons. The Prisoner then said, 'It is not our intention to interfere with you at all, you may do with the sick whatever you think proper.' When I entered what they called the Committee-room, one of the people, whom I supposed to be a Delegate, said, 'Take off your hat, Sir.' I don't know who it was, but it was not Parker. Another person, not the Prisoner, said, 'be gone.' I was two or three times with the Committee about persons under confinement; I don't know by whose orders they were confined, but not by the officers of the ship. I generally received a civil answer from Parker, desiring me to do as I pleased with the sick. On the 3d of June, I sent into the Committee for leave to go on shore, by Davies, who was commanding officer on deck. I was ordered by Davies to attend the Committee, then sitting in the Captain's cabin; I asked their permission to go on shore. The Prisoner, Parker, recommended it to the Committee to suffer me to go on shore, on condition that I would return next morning, and hoped I would use all my influence

with Admiral Buckner to get permission that all the sick on board might be landed. I went ashore, and did not return on board again till the ship was under the command of Captain Moss. One day after the mutiny began, the Prisoner was speaking to Captain Moss on the quarter-deck, about the many improprieties which the Delegates were charged with having committed. He said, he was certain if their grievances were not redressed, that there would not one of them shrink, or words to that effect; or if they did, he was certain they would be run to the yard arm by the ropes that were then rove. When the man was punished, Parker gave the order. When he made his speech, he bid the boatswain's mate do his duty. The Prisoner acted as President of the Committee, as it was generally understood. He sat at the head of the table as President, and appeared as the leading man on every occasion. When I saw the red flag flying, it struck me as the most daring piece of outrage I ever saw. The sick person was confined by order of the mutineers, who called themselves a Committee. The offence was drunkenness.

Q. from the Prisoner. When I was talking to Captain Moss, and saying, that I was sure no one would shrink, that if they did, they would, &c. did you suppose I meant any thing else, than if the Delegates were to propose such things to the ships' company, that they would be the sacrifice alluded to? This question, at the recommendation of the Court, was withdrawn.

Captain Surridge, of the Iris, said, he had seen the Prisoner, but had no conversation with him; he understood, from his first lieutenant, that Parker had been on board his ship. When he saw the Prisoner he was in a boat with a red flag flying, and he saw him parading through Sheerness with several other seamen, with music and a red flag; he and another appeared to be at the head of them. He saw Parker once at the Commissioner's house, in Sheerness, in conversation with Admiral Buckner, and, as near as the witness could recollect, he heard him say he envied no officers the command they held, having experienced a great deal of difficulty and trouble in the situation he was placed in himself. Parker at that time was apparently respectful. The witness saw him afterwards come up to the Commissioner's with two Delegates, one from the Nassau, and one from the Standard, who since shot himself. Parker took a paper from his pocket, and shewed it to each Delegate, and asked if it did not contain the demands of the Seamen of the North Sea squadron? They said it did. Parker then gave the paper to Commissioner Hartwell, who, after reading it, told the Prisoner that he was sorry to find it contained so much fresh matter, and he could not think of going to London with it; but that had he confined himself to the articles that he had shewn him on that day, he would have gone to the Admiralty with them; and he told the Prisoner, that if they were determined to insist on those articles, it would be needless for him to take any more trouble in the business. The Prisoner went off then, and the witness did believe, from his manner, that he did not mean to come back any more.

The Prisoner then asked the witness, whether he heard him desire the Commissioner to converse with the Delegates of the North Sea fleet concerning the four last articles which had been presented by them, and not by the Nore Delegates; and which were the articles objected to? The Witness answered, he did not know.

Captain Dixon, of the Espion, was next sworn. I remember, that on, or about, the 20th of May, I accompanied Admiral Buckner to the Nore; his flag was hoisted on board the Sandwich. He went thither for the express purpose of notifying his Majesty's pardon to the crews of the several ships under his command. Going on board the Sandwich, he was received without any respect due to his rank as a Flag Officer. Parker, the Prisoner, held in his hand several new propositions, under the head 'Grievances to be redressed.' The Admiral was detained on board upwards of three hours, in consequence of the ship's company not coming to any determination as to the propositions. At last, they were presented by Parker to Admiral Buckner, who returned on shore, being permitted to go. The Admiral was treated with much disrespect, for which the officers seemed extremely concerned, not having it in their power to treat him with their usual respect, and considered the crew to be in a high state of mutiny. Several days after that, I cannot recollect the exact day of the month, I was at the Com-

missioner's house. The Admiral, who was there, had it reported to him, that two marines were brought by the soldiers for examination. As I advanced to the fore-door, I saw the Prisoner, who asked if the Commissioner could be spoken with? I said I believed he could. The Prisoner came in, accompanied by one Davies, and demanded to know the reason the soldiers had brought the marines there? Admiral Buckner asked what right he had to make a demand? The Prisoner said, 'I am not to be interrogated; your flag is struck; you have no authority here; I, or we, (I do not recollect which) command the fleet.' Parker took out a pencil, and put a question to the Marines, or one of them. In the last interview between Admiral Buckner and the Prisoner, the latter behaved with the most daring insolence and contempt. I have frequently seen the Prisoner, heading a body of men called Delegates, pass and re-pass the Commissioner's house. These are the particular circumstances which I can bring to my recollection.

Q. From the Court. Do you recollect any particular conversation between the Admiral and the Prisoner at the time the Prisoner tendered the propositions? A. I remember that Admiral Buckner said to the Prisoner, that as he, and the rest of the Delegates of the fleet, had pledged themselves to abide by the same regulations as their brethren at Spithead, he was astonished to find that new propositions were advanced which could not be granted. I think the Prisoner, with five other Delegates, said, that it was the determination of the ship's company to abide by the latter propositions.

It being now four o'clock, Capt. Dixon's evidence was interrupted, and the Court adjourned till nine o'clock next morning.

FRIDAY, JUNE 23.

The Court met this day at ten o'clock.

The Judge Advocate said, that the Prisoner had stated to him, that he would dispense with the attendance of Lord Northesk and Captain Knight.

Parker asked the following question--Whether, after a Court-martial commences, fresh witnesses, not summoned, are allowed to appear to give evidence?

Capt. Moss, the Prosecutor, said, no witnesses have been produced, nor will any be produced against you, which have not been summoned long before the commencement of the Court-martial.

President.--It is, however, perfectly legal to call them.

The Admiralty Solicitor gave his opinion as to its legality, and corroborated the Prosecutor's determination.

Parker.--I am satisfied.

Captain John Wood, of the Hound, being sworn, and desired to state what he knew of the Prisoner's making mutinous assemblies on board the Sandwich, or any of his Majesty's ships, or of his behaving disrespectfully to any of his officers, answered, I saw nothing of the Prisoner until the 2d of June, on which day he came on board the Hound, on the arrival of that ship at the Nore. He told me that he had the honour of representing the whole fleet, an honour which he should never forget; that he had understood that I had been very violent to some of the Delegates; he advised me not to be so violent, or I must take the consequences. He then told me, that he did not like the ship's company; that he knew they were attached to me, for which reason he should put the ship in a safe birth, where she could not make her escape; he ordered the Pilot to get the ship under weigh, and to carry her as close to the Sandwich as possible: the Pilot told him it was an improper time of tide. He replied to the Pilot, that if he did refuse to get her under weigh immediately, he would find means of making him, at the same time pointing to the yard-rope. The Pilot got the ship under weigh, and dropt her close to the Sandwich: the Prisoner ordered the anchor to be let go. He was then hailed from the Sandwich by a person who said, 'We are too near them.' The Prisoner replied, 'I think we are, Mr. Davies.' He immediately returned to the Pilot, and said, with threatening language, 'You have committed one mistake, take care you do not commit another; if you do, I will make a beef-steak of you at the yard-arm.'

He ordered him to get under weigh again, and to moor her between the Sand-

wich and the Inflexible; she was got under weigh, and came to on the Sandwich's quarter. The Prisoner then had the hands turned up, and harangued them forward. I cannot exactly say what passed. I heard him say, that he found they were not hearty in the cause; that he should be obliged to shift them; and that if they had any complaints against their officers, those that they disliked should be turned on shore, and those they liked should remain on board. After this I was taken out of the ship by a man who called himself a Delegate, and who came from the Sandwich. I asked him by whose order? He said, by order of the President, the Prisoner, Parker. The man said I was a dangerous character, and was to be carried on board the Inflexible or Sandwich. I often saw the Prisoner rowing about the fleet with a red flag.

President. Was there any body in the stern sheets of the boat besides the Prisoner?

A. I think there was. He proceeded from ship to ship, and talked to the respective crews; they cheered him as he passed. A man on board the Hound was put in irons; I saw the Prisoner go forward and threaten him, but I did not hear the Prisoner give the order. I sent two letters on board the Sandwich, to go on shore. Parker brought them to me, and asked me what they were about. I told him that one was to the Admiralty, stating my arrival; the other a private one. He said he would send them, but they could not go until they were opened. I took the private letter, and said he might open the other if he pleased. One of the men standing by desired him not to open it; the Prisoner said, 'Hold your tongue, you scoundrel, or I'll have you at the yard-arm.' He then told me that he would open the letter, and send it on shore in the sick-boat in the morning; he said there was no other communication with the shore but by the sick-boat. He took the letter with him on board the Sandwich.

President. Did he confine you, or any other officer, on board your ship? A. He did not confine me; he told me that neither I nor any of the officers had any thing to do with the ship: he likewise said of me and the other officers, that he pitied our situation; but they must go through with their business, for the good of the cause in which they were embarked.

Court. When the Prisoner advised you not to be violent to any of the Delegates, did you conceive that this was said to you in order to save you from any mischief, or to intimidate you from doing your duty? A. The Prisoner told me that he advised me as a friend, as he had understood that I had drove some of the Delegates out of the ship, and threatened to put them to death. I had afterwards some conversation with the Prisoner, in consequence of asking him why he wished to send people on board, to force my people into the business; they had no complaints, and wished to have nothing to do with it. He told me it was for the good of the whole, and they must have to do with it.

Court. You have stated to the Court, that when the Prisoner ordered the Pilot to get under weigh, he pointed to the yard-ropes; were the yard ropes reeved before or after the Prisoner came on board? A. I think they were rove by his order. I was not on board the Sandwich; was ordered there, but was carried on board the Lion by mistake. The yard-ropes were reeved by a man belonging to the Pylades, after Parker came on board; I think, by his orders, but I cannot say; I saw the Prisoner speaking to him, and the man went up the shrouds.

President. Who directed the management of the ship after she was got under weigh? A. There was no sail set; she dropped down with the tide.

CROSS-EXAMINED BY PARKER.

Q. You have said, in answer to the question already asked, that I advised you as a friend. I'll now thank you to recollect, whether, when coming on board the Hound, I said to you, 'Captain Wood, the differences existing in the Fleet are of a very unpleasant nature: I feel myself in some degree under an obligation to you; therefore I would advise you to have nothing to do at present but to suffer the Hound to proceed as the rest of the ships, as I have no doubt that in the course of a day or two at farthest, the officers will resume their former command?' A. I recollect, when he came on board, he said he was obliged to me for allowing him to go back to the tender in Leith Roads, for which reason he

had come to advise me not to be so violent; but I do not recollect that he said any thing respecting the officers resuming their command.

Court. When the Prisoner had the hands turned up, and harangued them forward, do you mean that the Prisoner ordered the Boatswain or Boatswain's mate to turn them up? A. I heard him desire the Boatswain's mate to turn them up.

Court. Was it by way of request or command? It was an order to turn them up, and send them forward.

Lieutenant FLAT, *third Lieutenant of the Sandwich, sworn.*

Q. Do you know the Prisoner? A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Did he belong to the Sandwich, and in what situation? A. As a supernumerary.

Captain Moss (the Prosecutor.) Relate to the Court what you know of the Prisoner's conduct.

A. I did not know the Prisoner at the beginning of the mutiny. The first of my knowledge of him was on Admiral Buckner's coming on board. I saw the Prisoner give a paper to Admiral Buckner, stating the grievances of the Fleet. I heard the Prisoner say, that he was President of the Delegates of the Fleet. I saw the Prisoner going in boats frequently, and acting as commander in them. I do not remember more, further than his being very active in attending the Committee. On the 2d of June, the Prisoner desired me to come over on the star-board side of the deck, and receive orders. He said, 'You are ordered, Sir, to receive a hundred and eleven men out of the Leith tender, and to give a receipt for them as usual, and we are answerable for what you do.' I replied, That I had no orders to receive men from Admiral Buckner, and that my receipt was of no use, having no command. He again said, 'We are answerable for what we do.' I mustered the men, and gave the receipt. I was again sent for by the Committee on the 4th June, to give a receipt for fifteen men from the Lynn tender, which I complied with. I was told by Davies, that it was the orders of the Prisoner and the Committee. On or about the 9th of June, I was a prisoner in the ward-room; I saw the Prisoner passing under the stern of the ship in a boat. I heard three cheers given over-head; the Prisoner turned round, and said, that he was going on board of the Director to put a spring on her cable, and that he would send her and them (meaning, as I believe, the Repulse, which was aground), to the devil. I saw the Prisoner go on board the Director; I saw the spring on her cable, and a very heavy fire commenced from that ship on the Repulse. I did not see the Prisoner return on the 12th of June: I was released from confinement on the afternoon of the same day. I was confined again, but by whose order I do not know. On or about Monday the 14th the Prisoner came down in the ward-room, to release all the officers. He said, we were at liberty to walk the deck, but were not to have any conversation with the people. The Prisoner sent for Mr. Mott, the Lieutenant, the same day we were released. Mr. Mott came up, and all hands were called by the Prisoner's orders. He told them that Mr. Mott was to go on shore to bring off his Majesty's pardon. He asked the people whether they were willing that Lieutenant Mott should go?—The answer was, that they were willing, and wished that the ship, meaning the Sandwich, should be given up to the officers. Some of the men wished the white colours to be hoisted, and the blue hauled down, before Lieutenant Mott went. Lieutenant Mott called out to lower the blue ensign, and hoist the white. He went in the boat, and several people followed.

The Prisoner then said to me, that if we changed the colours, there were three ships astern that would fire at us. I called out to stop the colours from being hoisted till Lieutenant Mott should return. Lieutenant Mott agreed with me, and so did the people. Lieutenant Mott went on shore, and brought off the Proclamation. The Prisoner ordered all hands to be turned up, and it was read on the quarter-deck by one of the clerks, who was Deputy-Purser. The Prisoner then spoke to the people, and asked them whether they were willing to accept of his Majesty's pardon, and to give up the ship to the officers, or to let her remain with us? The people all answered, 'to the officers,' excepting two of the prisoners now in custody, Jones and Davies, who said the ships astern would fire upon us if we altered our colours, and the Prisoner also said so. Lieutenant

Mott, myself, and the people called out to change colours, which was done. I said they might fire and be damn'd, if they pleased. The Prisoner said then, we will give three cheers, which was done. The Prisoner joined them. I demanded the keys of the magazine and small arms, which the Prisoner complied with, saying, here are the keys of the magazine, and the charge of the ship I give up to you, being a senior officer. I gave orders, after the anchor was secured, to unmoor ship.

The Prisoner came up to me and said, if we offered to unmoor the ships astern would fire on us. I told them I did not care, it did not signify. The Prisoner then said he was ready to come and heave at the capstan with us. The Prisoner afterwards came to me, and desired me to confine him. I told him I would order him to a cabin, and put two centinels over him. He refused going, but said he would heave at the capstan. About half past nine in the evening of Thuesday, I consulted with the officers, whether it would be proper to confine the Prisoner before we got underweigh, or wait till we got under the guns of the garrison of Sheerness. It was agreed we should confine him immediately. Lieutenant Mott and myself went on deck, found the Prisoner on the quarter-deck, and Lieutenant Pamp close by him. Lieutenant Mott laid hold of the Prisoner by the collar, and brought him down to the lower deck, put him into Lieutenant Pamp's cabin and placed two centinels over him. The morning after, I went down about four o'clock and put the Prisoner in irons. I saw the Prisoner sent on shore by Captain Moss's order.

Q. From the Prosecutor. Previous to your departure, had the major part of the men of war sailed, or separated themselves from the Nore? A. Several were separated, and gone up the Thames.

Q. What reasons were assigned for your release, and by whom were you released? A. The Prisoner himself released us, but did not say for what reason.

Q. From the Court. When you saw the Prisoner go to the Director from the Sandwich, was any body in the stern-sheets of the boat with him? A. I don't remember any but the boat's crew.

Q. In the course of your evidence you distinguished the Prisoner by the name of President, do you know whether he assumed any other title, or was addressed by the crew with any particular marks of distinction during the existence of the mutiny? A. No: I do not. He called himself the President of the Committee, and I never knew any other name given to him.

Q. What commands did you observe the Prisoner give, which makes you say he acted as a commander in the boat? A. He ordered the boats to be manned, which was complied with, and when he went over the side, the boatswain's mate attended him.

Q. Were you closely confined? A. No, but to the ward-room, where we were confined for a short time.

Q. After the officers were suspended from their situations of command, who was understood to be the principal commanders and the leading men among the mutineers? A. At the breaking out, the master was commanding officer, and for the rest of the time, one Davies, who is now a prisoner.

Q. From the Prosecutor. Do you remember seeing, during the mutiny, a plan of defence hanging up on board of the quarter-deck of the Sandwich, or under her poop? A. No: I never saw it.

Q. From the Prisoner. When Lieutenant Mott returned from Admiral Buckner with the Proclamation, were you present on the quarter-deck? A. Yes, I was.

Q. Do you recollect my begging the ship's company to deliver up the ship to their officers, and trust to his Majesty's clemency? A. I don't recollect your begging of them, only your asking if they were willing.

Q. When the white colours were hoisted, did you hear me say publicly, it was the happiest moment I had felt for a long time? A. There might be such words pass; but, if they had been said, I might not have heard them, from the noise and confusion.

Q. When the foretop-sail was loosed, did I not, in the most respectful manner, come on the quarter-deck to you, and point out to you, that the crews of the Inflexible, and two more line of battle ships astern, would, I was afraid, get springs

under their respective ships, so as to rake the Sandwich at every shot? Do you not remember my mentioning that it would be better if the Sandwich had not got under weigh for her own safety, till she was less observed by those ships? A. His manner was respectful, and he did make the request, and offered that advice.

Mr. LEVINGSTON, Boatwain of the Director, sworn.

Q. Do you remember seeing the Prisoner on board the Director on the day the Repulse got aground in attempting to get into Sheernees harbour? A. I do. When he came on board, he came aft on the quarter-deck, and requested a boat to go with a flag of truce on board the Repulse; but then he ordered all hands to be called. The boat was denied. He then wanted to slip the ship's cable to go along side of the Repulse, which was denied. He, upon this, ordered a spring to be got on the cable, to bring her broadside to bear on the Repulse at once. When the spring was on, he ordered it to be hove in, and to bear away the best bower. As the ship came round, he ordered them to point her guns at the Repulse. A gun was fired from the Repulse; I think from the quarter-deck. Then the Prisoner gave orders to fire at the Repulse from all the decks, as she had fired at us: and the order was repeated by one of the Delegates of our ship, and was complied with. Parker going off the quarter-deck, I saw no more of him.

Q. From the Court. How long did the Director keep up a heavy fire on the Repulse? A. To the best of my knowledge, for the space of half an hour.

Q. Did you see any other ship with a spring on her cable firing at the Repulse at the same time? A. I saw the Menmouth firing, but I could not distinguish her spring.

Q. Riding as the ships were to the flood tide, could the broadside of any ship be brought to bear without a spring? A. In my opinion they could not.

Q. From the President. Who had the command of the Director at the time the Prisoner came on board? A. Joseph Mitchell, Captain of the fore-castle.

Q. Who appointed Joseph Mitchell to the command? A. The Committee of Delegates belonging to the Director.

Q. In the situation the Repulse lay aground, could she have brought any of her guns to bear on the Director? A. She could not, except her stern chasers.

Q. From what part of the Repulse was the gun fired? A. From the larboard side of the quarter-deck.

Q. What was the position of the Repulse? A. I think her bow was a little to the Southward.

Q. Did the Prisoner order the guns of the Director to be pointed at the Repulse before the gun was fired from the latter, or after? A. Before.

Q. Whom did the Prisoner ask for the boat, and who denied it? A. Joe Mitchell was called aft, but I did not see him. I knew of the boat being denied him by a general voice on the quarter-deck---a cry of 'No.' It was in the same way that the request for slipping the cables was refused.

Q. Where were you, and how near the Prisoner, when the guns were ordered to be fired? A. I was standing on the arm chest.

Q. Did he give his orders by calling out to the people? A. He spoke to the people, not in a loud voice, but loud enough to be heard from the quarter-deck to the fore-castle; and ordered them to fire. The Delegate on the larboard gang-way repeated the orders.

Q. From the Prisoner. Where were you at the time the boat was refused me? A. On the poop, at the fore-part.

Q. Had there been a gun fired at that time from the Director? A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. Do you recollect my addressing the ship's company, and pointing out to them how dreadful a thing it was for brothers to be firing one on another; and that if they would allow me the boat, I would take a flag of truce with me, and repair to the Repulse; which, I did not doubt, would stop the effusion of blood. What might happen to myself, I should not consider of any consequence, even if I lost my life to save so many men? A. I heard you say so when you asked for a flag of truce; I heard you say, to save innocent blood. This conversation was the first that happened after he came on board.

Q. Was there any preparation for a spring on the cable, or any spring put on before you came on board? A. There were neither, to my knowledge. There might have been preparations without my knowledge.

Samuel Hilliard, the Carpenter of the Director,---I saw the Prisoner on board the Director on the day mentioned by the last witness. I heard him ask for a boat to carry a flag of truce to the Repulse, which was denied by the general voice of the ship's company, as well as his request to take the ship along side. The ship's broadside was then brought to bear by a spring on the cable, and then the ship's company began to fire. The Prisoner was on the quarter-deck.

The Repulse then fired a gun from her larboard quarter; upon which the Prisoner said, 'they had returned the fire,' and he ordered the men to level their guns; and they then continued firing from all decks; I never saw the Prisoner after that. The Director might have been firing on the Repulse about three quarters of an hour from beginning to ending, as near as I can judge. I saw the Monmouth with a small anchor carried out; but I believe no spring on her cable while she was firing.

Q. Did there appear any inclination amongst the ship's company of the Director to fire on the Repulse before the Prisoner came on board of her? A. I do not know.

Q. Did it appear to you that the people of the Director fired in consequence of the Prisoner's orders? A. I cannot say.

Q. Was it possible that that could be attempted without your knowledge, you being at liberty to go about the ship? A. I saw a hawser got up before the Prisoner came on board.

Q. (From the Prisoner.) Do you recollect whether all the guns on the larboard side of the quarter-deck were cast loose before I came on board? A. Some were, I cannot say whether all were cast loose.

THOMAS BARRY, a Seaman of the Monmouth, sworn.

I know the Prisoner very well by sight, and have seen him twice.

Q. Did you see the Prisoner on board the Monmouth at the time the Repulse was endeavouring to escape into Sheerness harbour? A. Yes, I did. I did not see him when he first came on board, I saw him first on the fore-castle. When he came there he took the command of all the Monmouth's fore-castle guns. The gun which I attended was fired six or seven different times at the Repulse. When the gun was going to be loaded the seventh time, I spoke to him not to put the cartridge in at that time: with that I got the gun wormed out, and immediately after he ordered the gun to be spunged. She was then loaded, and he was not content with a nine-pound shot that was in her, but took a crow-bar, and put the thick end in first. I immediately took it out of his hand, when he gave me a shove, and I fell over the heel of the top-mast. After that I was kept forwards on the fore-castle, by one Vance, a quarter-master, who acted as Captain of the ship. Being there one hour and a half, I was ordered to go down and stay in my birth. I did not do so, but came on deck, when the Prisoner was standing on the heel of the top-mast. He ordered Vance to get up the stream-cable to the stream anchor. Vance said, he could not do that. Then the Prisoner said, slip your bower, and go along side the Repulse, and send her to hell, where she belongs to, and shew her no quarter. After that, he said he could not stay any longer on board the Monmouth, he would also go on board one of the other ships of the fleet, and send her after the Leopard.

Q. How near were you to the Prisoner when he was standing on the heel of the top-mast, and had the conversation with Vance? A. I was standing by the biss, just before the fore-castle. I was stationed at the aftermost gun on the larboard side.

Q. From the Prisoner. Had you fired any guns yourself before you first saw me on board? A. No.

Q. Had there been any guns fired from any part of the ship before the fore-castle guns were fired? A. Yes, the quarter-deck guns were fired.

Q. You have been talking about hell; I wish to know whether you have been promised any thing for advancing this hellish account? A. No: I have not been promised any thing.

The Prisoner. 'I will bring witnesses to disprove what this man has said.'

John Summerland, boatswain's-mate of the Monmouth, related the circumstances which took place on board the Monmouth. I saw the Prisoner standing on something, as if he was going to make a speech. Capt. Vance wanted to speak first, but the Prisoner would not allow it; he would insist on the ship slipping her cables. The ship's company would not agree to this. Parker then said, he would go to another ship, which he would take along-side of the Leopard, and send her to hell. In the mean time the Repulse then got off, and upon that Parker shook his fist, and said, 'Damn her, she is off.' He then went on board the Sandwich.

Q. How long did the heavy fire of the Repulse continue? A. I believe about two hours, from beginning to end.

Q. From the Prosecutor. Did the Monmouth or the Director fire first at the Repulse? A. The Monmouth.

[Here the evidence for the Prosecution closed; and then the President asked the Prisoner when he would be ready to enter upon his defence? The Prisoner saying he could not be ready to-morrow, was asked, whether he could be ready on Monday? He answered that he thought he should, and therefore the defence was put off till Monday.] The Court adjourned at five o'clock.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24.

The Court opened at ten o'clock this morning, and the Prisoner was introduced with the usual formalities.

President. Prisoner, the Court has taken into consideration the request which you have made, of being supplied with extracts of the evidence, and they are of opinion it cannot be legally granted.

Judge Advocate to the Prisoner. You desired a list of the witnesses examined against you. There they are.

Parker. I thank you.

President to the Prisoner. The Court has met this day, in order to adjourn to Monday, that you may have time to prepare for your defence. You have thus two days given you for that purpose, in consequence of Sunday intervening; but you cannot have a moment longer than Monday morning, and you must then be ready.

Parker. That time is sufficient: I shall be prepared.

Judge Advocate. The Prisoner requests that he may be furnished with a copy of the declaration he made before the Magistrates at Sheerness.

President. The Court has nothing to do with that paper. He has certainly a right to it. It was accordingly delivered to him, together with pen, ink, and paper.

Pres. to the Prisoner. You have hitherto had every indulgence: you shall have every indulgence during the remainder of your trial. Whatever you ask for, with the view of enabling you to make your defence, shall be allowed to you, if it be in the power of the Court to grant it. The Prisoner replied, 'I thank you, Sir.'

The Court then adjourned to Monday next, nine o'clock A. M.

MONDAY, JUNE 26, 1797.

The Court met at nine o'clock--when the Judge Advocate informed the Prisoner, that in consequence of his application for certain witnesses necessary for his defence, those witnesses had been sent for to Sheerness, and were then present. The Court then informed the Prisoner that he might proceed with his defence; and asked him whether he chose to read it himself, or to let the Judge Advocate read it? He replied that he would read itself. The Prisoner then addressed the Court in the following terms:

DEFENCE OF THE PRISONER.

Gentlemen,

As I have been at sea from my youth, I therefore hope nothing will be expected from me but a narrative of plain facts. I cannot dress up my thoughts in the pompous language of a lawyer. Could I have procured assistance, I might have been enabled to have expressed myself with more propriety. In the first place, I have to return thanks to this Court for giving me the time they have to defend myself against the very heavy charges brought against me. Nothing but the consciousness of the integrity of my intentions with respect to the Mutiny, and the reflection that I did not enter into it until two days after it commenced, and a firm conviction that I entered into it solely with the view of repressing the dangerous spirit I saw prevail in the Fleet, could have supported me against such heavy charges, and sworn to by so many witnesses. The first witness called against me was Vice-Admiral Buckner, who says he often saw me, and he acknowledges my behaviour to him was always respectful. I never waited on Admiral Buckner without the express orders of the Delegates; and when I did, studiously avoided sporting with his feelings by improper behaviour; on the contrary, I couched every message I had to deliver in the most respectful terms I was able. It may be asked how I came to be the person pitched upon to deliver

such messages, and act as the principal in the business? To this I can only answer that such was the case. The Delegates insisted on my assuming the situation I appeared in, and it was impossible for me, or any individual under similar circumstances, to have resisted such appointment. I knew nothing of the Mutiny till it had broke out. As soon as I saw that fatal spirit of Mutiny which prevailed, I immediately thought it my duty, and I endeavoured, as far as in me lay, to stop the further progress of it. However melancholy have been the events which have taken place, I am convinced more dreadful consequences would have ensued, had I not acted the part I have done—consequences which, I hesitate not in saying, I have prevented at the hazard of my life; and feeling that I have done whatever was in my power to lessen the evil, which I could not wholly prevent, I can wait the decision of the Court with calmness and resignation. Admiral Buckner says he was not received with that respect which was due to his rank. I was sorry that it should have been so, but that he cannot impute to me, as he was on board before me, and I was at the time on shore, attending a procession; and the Admiral himself acknowledges, that when I did go on board, I went on the quarter-deck, and said, ‘it must have been owing to some mistake he was not received with the honours due to him, and I offered that the men should man the yards. He acknowledges an attempt was made to man the yards, which afterwards subsided. It was so; an attempt was made by me to that effect, though at that time it was a thing dangerous to propose, and was done at the risque of my life, for it was signified if it was complied with, that the Inflexible and the other ships would fire upon and sink the Sandwich; a report having been propagated that Admiral Buckner was not a fit person to reconcile the Fleet with the Admiralty, which so discomposed our people, that the respect intended to be shewn was defeated. Mr. Bray came on board from the Inflexible, where he said he had found the tompons out of the guns, the matches ready, and every appearance of hostility. During the whole continuance of the Mutiny there were daily meetings of the Committee of the Delegates of the ships. The Delegates received propositions, for all measures originated on board the Inflexible, and there is not a man of the whole Fleet who does not attribute the melancholy consequences that took place to the violence of the people of that ship. It was to prevent those consequences I went on shore to Admiral Buckner, and when I was half passage to shore, I first observed the Admiral’s flag down, and the red one in its stead. In answer to what Admiral Buckner has said respecting the two Marines, I do not deny being commanded by the Delegates of the Fleet to act as I did. The circumstances were these: the people called Delegates, representing the ships’ companies were refreshing themselves with their usual allowance, which was a pint of beer each man. In the mean time they were informed that two Marines were in custody of the main-guard, for approving of the conduct of the Seamen. The Delegates desired me to enquire if it was so. I did so. The officer said he had no such persons. We were informed that the two Marines were at Commissioner Hartwell’s house. We accordingly went and told him to release the men, and send them on board, where their conduct should be enquired into, and the men punished, if they deserved it. We saw Admiral Buckner, who said the Marines had used very improper language at a house at Queenborough. He had no objection to our examining them. One of them appeared in a state of intoxication. I interrogated them, and Admiral Buckner said, ‘Parker, you are asking very proper questions.’ The men were taken and sent to the Fleet, and the next day sent aboard their respective ships. It was requested by the Admiral they should be confined, and I understood that was complied with. I shall not observe farther relative to my conduct on account of the two Marines, but I beg leave to state this question to the Court, whether four men could have taken them away from a strong guard, and in the face of the

garrison, unless with the approbation of the Commissioner and Admiral. I repeat, that I never did behave with the least disrespect towards Admiral Buckner: I remember a conversation wherein Admiral Buckner said, 'Consider what must have been my feelings at seeing my Flag struck.' I replied, I had nothing to do with striking his Flag. I told him I could judge what his feelings must have been on such an occasion; that I had feelings of my own, and could easily participate in his, but that I could not prevent them, as I was but a single individual among many. Having done with Admiral Buckner's evidence, I think it but justice to acknowledge, that both Admiral Buckner and Commissioner Hartwell did every thing that lay in their power to satisfy the minds of the Fleet. The next five evidences said they knew nothing of me.

Mr. John Snipe deposes, that on the afternoon of the 14th of May he was called upon to attend the punishment of a man of the name of Campbell, and that I ordered him a dozen lashes. I do not attempt to deny, that I did act as he has sworn. I was commanded to see the punishment inflicted; but Mr. Bay was consulted as to the propriety of inflicting such a punishment for the offence he had committed, which was for getting beastly drunk, at the same time asserting he had drunk nothing but small beer. I recommended to the whole ship's crew to abstain from liquor until the whole of the business was settled, telling them, if they did not, that the punishment which their own justice had inflicted on that man, should be inflicted on any one offending. As to the sick man in irons, it was a man confined for disrespect to Captain Moss; the answer given by me on that occasion to Mr. Snipe sufficiently shews that I did not mean to interfere with his professional concerns; and, I hope, it will have the effect of shewing to the Court, that I was alive to the sufferings of my fellow-creatures. Mr. Snipe has said, that he had leave to go on shore, on his promising to return again; but that he took care not to return till the ship was under the command of its officers. I shall make no comment on this part of his evidence, but I shall only ask, whether it was praise-worthy on his part, at a time when the seamen were labouring under incurable disorders, for a Surgeon to leave the ship, merely because his situation was not so comfortable as he would have wished?

I next come to the evidence of Captain Surridge, of the Iris; he says that he has seen me once at the Commissioner's house, and that he afterwards saw me come up to the Commissioner's at the Jutty Head, where he recollects my delivering the articles containing the final determination of the North Sea Squadron. I do declare that I had no conversation with the Commissioners; but left it entirely to them, to satisfy themselves that the Articles I had presented really did contain the demands of that fleet. Captain Surridge has declared that he saw no disrespect on my part towards him, therefore I shall not dwell further on his evidence. The next evidence is Captain Dixon of the L'Espion, but as many observations in his evidence are answered by what I have observed with respect to Admiral Buckner, I shall decline commenting on it. I now come to the evidence of Captain Wood, of the Hound, who has deposed, that I went on board his ship, and advised him not to be so violent. I certainly did go on board, but I had no other motive but that of the personal safety of the Captain, and the preservation of the ship. He says he was ordered out of his ship. In answer to this, I solemnly assert I did not know that he was ordered to leave his ship, the orders were not certainly given by me; as to my having said I would make a beef-steak of the pilot at the yard-arm, I solemnly declare I did not make use of such expressions. I do not recollect the Pilot's letting go the anchor. I declare to God I know nothing of it. If I was before God I would deny it. It is very possible Captain Wood might be mistaken as to my being the person who gave the order. Lieutenant Platt deposes he does not know me. As I shall have occasion to ask Lieutenant Platt some more questions, I shall not make any further observations

on his evidence at present. Mr. Livingston, boatswain of the Director, deposes that he saw me on board the Director at the time the Repulse was on shore, that I asked him for a boat, observing, that it might be the means of saving many lives. He recollects my giving the word 'fire.' After which Mr. Samuel Ellis deposes, that he heard me address the ship's company, and that soon after the guns were fired, but that he did not hear me order it. In the first place, in order to account for my being on board the Director.—When the demands of the North Sea fleet were known, a boat went round to the whole of the fleet, with a band of music, playing God save the King, Rule Britannia, and Britons Strike Home. I was desired to be on that duty. Matthew Hollister informed me that the Repulse was getting under weigh, and that the Director was getting a spring on her cable. I was then commanded on board the Director. I saw the guns on the quarter-deck cast loose. I pointed out the impropriety and cruelty of one brother fighting against another; and I begged for a flag of truce, which was refused. I then sounded their dispositions, by proposing to go alongside the Repulse: this I did in order to see how far they would proceed; and I was happy to find they did not approve of so doing. My reason for asking for a flag of truce was, I thought if I could obtain permission to take it, none of the other ships would fire on the Repulse out of respect to the flag of truce they had granted; but finding myself opposed, I was obliged to act a part I abominated. I do not recollect giving orders to fire; but if I did, they must have been the orders of compulsion, and not of choice.

Thomas Barry, Seaman, deposed I was on board the Monmouth; but I will prove that I was not at that time on board the Monmouth, that I was then on board the Director, and that he must have confounded me with some other person. He deposed that after firing the 6th or 7th gun from the fore-castle, that on the gun being loaded the 7th time, I put a crow-bar into the mouth of the gun. He relates something being confined by a man called Captain Vance. He also swore that when the Repulse got off, I shook my fist, and said, 'Damn me, she's off, and that I would send her to Hell.' I do declare that I went on board the Sandwich in the Ardent's boat, and not in the manner described by Barry. John Summerland does not recollect my working with my clothes off, but he says I was on board the Monmouth. In fact, I was more in want of rest, than anxious to look after Don Quixote adventures. I did go on board the Monmouth, it is certain, but with the same views I had in going on board the Director. As to my having said I would take an outside ship and repair to the Leopard, I could have no other motive for so doing than to make her keep her station. Some days previous to the Sandwich being delivered up, the Montague made a signal for a Delegate; I thought they were by no means amicable with respect to their dispositions in general, and therefore the signal was not complied with.

I have now made all the remarks which occur to me on the evidence. I now address myself again to the Court, not for the purpose of informing that where mercy can be extended, it ought to be shewn, being assured that I shall have strict justice; but I appeal to them to attend particularly to the evidence of Barry. However I may have been misrepresented in the Public Prints, my intentions were good. My character is dearer to me than a thousand lives. My country allows me justice, and justice I trust I shall have from this honourable Court.

Lord NORTHESEK, *Captain of the Monmouth, sworn.*

Q. Have you heard the charge read. A. Yes.

Q. My Lord, do you recollect whether you was on board the Monmouth at the time of firing on the Repulse? A. I was on shore. I was not on board at that time.

Q. Has your Lordship been at any time on board of the Sandwich? A. I was on board the Sandwich on the 6th of June.

Q. Did it impress your Lordship, from the reception you met with, that the people

TRIAL OF RICHARD PARKER FOR MUTINY.

notwithstanding the existing differences, were perfectly loyal to their Sovereign and Country? A. The Seamen in the cabin said they were very loyal.

Q. Does your Lordship recollect a mark of loyalty, namely, immediately as your Lordship entered the cabin door, the band striking up God save the King? A. I remember the Prisoner ordering the band, as I came into the cabin, to play God save the King.

I have no further questions to ask.

Presid. In what ostensible situation did the Prisoner appear to be when your Lordship entered the cabin? A. He appeared to me as President of the people then calling themselves Delegates.

Q. Was he the chief spokesman during your Lordship's conference with them?

A. Yes he was.

Pros. Did you receive-----

Parker. I thought the evidence for the Crown had been done with.

Judge-Advocate. If a prosecutor offers evidence, the prisoner has a right to cross-examine him; if the prisoner produces evidence, the prosecutor has the same right.

Q. Did you receive the letter now produced from the Prisoner? I did.

'Sandwich, Nore, June 6, 1796.---To the Right Honourable Earl NORTHESK.---My Lord,---You are hereby required and directed to proceed to London with such papers as are intrusted to your care, and to lay the same before our Gracious Sovereign King George the Third, and to represent to our Gracious Sovereign that the Seamen at the Nore have been grossly misrepresented; at the same time, if our Gracious Sovereign does not order us to be redressed in 54 hours, such steps will be taken as will astonish our dear countrymen. And your Lordship is requested to send answer in the specified time, by your purser, who is to attend your Lordship.

I am your humble servant,

By order of the Delegates of the whole Fleet, R. PARKER, Pres.'

'My Lord, I am further to acquaint your Lordship, that an oath has been taken by the Delegates of the Fleet, that they never had any communication with Jacobins and Traitors.

R. PARKER, Pres.'

Q. Did your Lordship receive that letter from the Prisoner; did the Prisoner acknowledge it to be his letter? A. The letter was delivered to me by the Prisoner.

Examined by PARKER.

Q. Was your Lordship present at the writing of the before mentioned letter? A. I was present at the writing the last paragraph, beginning the words, 'my Lord,' and ending with the words, 'Richard Parker, President,' by the Prisoner.

Court. Who dictated the letter; was the latter part of it dictated by the Prisoner?

A. He wrote it himself, without any dictating.

Q. Does not your Lordship recollect seeing a shew of hands from the Delegates assembled, ordering and insisting on the latter part of the letter being wrote? A. Do you mean the latter part of it? Yes, the latter part of it. A. I remember it was their wish that it should be expressed that they were neither Jacobins nor Traitors, or words to that effect.

Court. Was the latter part read to the Delegates after Parker wrote it? A. I don't recollect.

Q. Does your Lordship remember whether the Committee wished to have those words Jacobins and Traitors expressed before or after Parker had written the sequel to that letter? A. I do not recollect, but I believe it was before.

Captain JOHN KNIGHT, of the Montague, sworn.

Q. Do you recollect being on board his Majesty's ship the Sandwich during the late existing differences? A. I do perfectly well, being on board more than once.

Q. Were you ever impressed with any marks of loyalty shewn by the people assembled on board? A. By music; I have heard God save the King, Britons strike Home; and I have heard expressions of loyalty, that they venerated their Sovereign, and esteemed him; I think I have heard the Prisoner say so himself; and further, I have heard the Prisoner say, that if there were a certainty that the Enemy's Fleet were at sea, they would take the Fleet under their direction in search of them.

Court. Did he say he or the Fleet? A. He spoke in the plural number. He further said, 'That if the Dutch Fleet was still in the Texel, he would lead the Fleet in and attack them, to prove to the Nation that they were neither Rebels nor Traitors.' I have no more questions to ask.

Pros. Do you remember the flags hoisted on board the Sandwich the 29th May and the 4th June? A. I was not at the Nore the 29th May. On the 4th of June I do remember the Standard at the fore, the Union at the mizen, and a red flag at the main.

Capt. Moss. The Mutiny flag you mean?

Capt. Knight. You may call it a Mutiny flag; it was a plain red flag at the main, and the Union at the mizen.

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Q. On royal birth-days, is it not the practice to hoist the Standard at the main?
A. Yes it is.

Court. At the time the Standard was hoisted on the fore top-gallant head, and the red flag at the main, was it prior to your hearing the Prisoner make use of loyal expressions, or after? A. It was on the 8th when I heard him make use of loyal expressions, the day I went on board with the Act of Parliament.

A Letter was here produced.

Q. Did you receive the Letter now produced from the Prisoner? I did not receive it from the Prisoner, it was brought to me by one of the Committee-men of the Montague.

The Letter was read, stating, that Captain Knight had permission to go on shore with Mrs. Knight, but to return in three days. That the Officers were detained as hostages for the Delegates on shore, and relying on Captain Knight's honour to return, as they considered him on his parole.

President. Was the Red Flag flying on board the Sandwich when the Prisoner mentioned those expressions of loyalty? A. It was.

Q. Have you ever understood from the Prisoner, or any other of those they called Delegates of the Fleet, what the Red Flag meant, whether a flag of defiance? A. I recollect on the 8th, when I was on board the Sandwich, asking the question what it was meant to represent, and was informed, but whether by the Prisoner, or some other of his associates, I know not, that they wished to establish it, and to fight under it, for that the Dutch had stolen it from the English, and they wished to restore it.

Court. During the time you were on board the Sandwich, did the Prisoner appear to direct the proceedings? A. I never heard him giving any directions; it was him who addressed me. He reported to me when the boat was ready to take me.

Q. How do you reconcile the loyalty you have mentioned with the treatment you received, by the total annihilation of your authority, the breach of the laws of your country, and imprisonment of your Officers? A. I conceive it does not apply to the Prisoner: I was robbed of my authority before I saw the Prisoner.

The question was repeated. A. It is irreconcilable certainly, but I only meant, that my authority was annihilated before I came on board and saw the Prisoner.

Pris. I wish to ask Captain Moss a question.

The Judge Advocate informed him it was irregular, and the Prisoner waved his desire.

Mr. JACOB SWAINSON, Gunner.

Q. Have you heard the charges read? A. No.

Q. Do you recollect the day on which Admiral Buckner's flag was struck on board the Sandwich? A. I do not know the particular day.

Q. Do you know any particular person or persons who were aiding and assisting in striking the flag? A. I do not.

Q. Do you recollect Captain Moss having said, on the quarter-deck, that as the Mutiny unfortunately had commenced, he thought it fortunate I happened to be on board of the Sandwich to keep down the spirit of it, as I seemed perfectly moderate? A. I do not recollect Captain Moss saying any thing of that kind.

Q. Do you ever recollect, during the Mutiny, to have informed me that such conversation had taken place between Captain Moss and his Officers? A. I do not.

Q. Did you ever form an opinion of me personally, that it would make me happy if the fleet could be brought into a moderate way of thinking, and of delivering up the command of the ships to their Officers, and trusting to our gracious Sovereign for a redress of grievances? A. I have heard the Prisoner express a wish that it was settled, at the latter part of it.

Q. Was it at the latter part of the Mutiny you only noticed me?

Court. If your question is only as to opinion, it will be of no service to you. A. I have no other questions to ask.

Q. Captain Moss. Was the Prisoner particularly active when the Repulse was aground, and what did the Prisoner say on getting her off? A. I did not hear him say any thing on her getting off; when the Prisoner came on board that evening, he ordered the boat to be hoisted out of the Sandwich, that he might go on board the Director, get a spring on her cable, and, if his father was on board that ship, pointing to the Repulse, he would blow her to Hell, for that was where she belonged to.

Q. What do you recollect the Prisoner has said respecting the cause he was embarked in? A. I have heard the Prisoner say he thought it was a good cause, and there was no doubt but they should gain their point.

Q. What point? A. A redress of their grievances of which they complained. I understood it so.

Q. Do you recollect the Prisoner giving any directions or orders at any time on

board the Sandwich? A. I do not recollect his giving any orders, except the last I have stated. I was very seldom on deck.

Q. Did you ever hear the Prisoner, or any other person calling himself a Delegate, say what they meant by hoisting the red flag? A. I don't recollect I ever did.

Q. Did you never ask what it was? A. I never did.

Examined by PARKER.

Q. Do you ever recollect my saying to you, it was a great pity the Inflexible should have been in the Fleet, that if it had not been for that ship, things would have been amicably settled long since? A. Yes, I do.

Court. Do you recollect on what day the Prisoner said that? A. I do not.

Q. Was it after the King's Birth-day? A. I can't say.

Court. I wish to know at what time of day the Repulse got on shore, and at what time did she get off? A. She got on shore about three o'clock in the afternoon, to the best of my recollection, and got off between five and six the same afternoon.

Q. Do you recollect what time Parker returned from the Monmouth to the Sandwich? A. I do not know; it was late.

Q. Was the Repulse on shore at the time the Prisoner ordered the Sandwich's boat to be hoisted? A. She had been on shore some time.

Q. At what time that afternoon did the Monmouth cease firing? A. To the best of my recollection, the Repulse was got off before the Monmouth ceased firing.

Q. Was it sufficiently day-light for you to see the Repulse come to her anchor in Sheerness harbour? A. She was in, to the best of my recollection, before dark.

Q. Can you recollect whether it was before or after the Repulse went into Sheerness harbour, that the Prisoner said it was a great pity the Inflexible was in the fleet? A. I do not recollect whether it was before or after.

EDWARD ALLEN of the Sandwich sworn.

Q. Do you recollect the day on which the Mutiny broke out on board his Majesty's ship the Sandwich? A. No, I do not.

Q. Was you on board that day? A. Yes.

Q. Did I take any active part in the proceedings of that day or the following? A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. Do you recollect my frequently complaining to you and your messmates?

President. What you have asked can be of no service to you.

Parker. I mean to shew I considered that it was a pity things should be carried on in the violent manner they were. A. I do not recollect any such words in my presence.

I have nothing but conversation of that kind to ask.

Court. You shall not be checked in any question.

Q. Did you ever form an opinion---

Court. Unless you can disprove what has been sworn, any opinion can be of no use---however, you may go on.

Q. Did you ever form an opinion, from the manner of my proceedings, that it would give me pleasure to see matters settled? A. No, not as I know of, I never saw anything amiss of him.

Court. Did you ever hear the Prisoner, or any body else calling himself a Delegate, say what they meant by the Red Flag? A. No.

Q. Do you know what the Red Flag was called on board ship---what was the meaning of it? A. No, I do not.

MATTHEW HOLLISTER, Seaman of the Director, sworn.

Q. Do you recollect at what time I left his Majesty's ship Director the day the Repulse got on shore, attempting to get into Sheerness harbour? A. I can't speak to the hour or minute, but it was late in the evening.

The Prisoner said he had no other question, as the Witness was to be tried himself.

Did you ever hear the Prisoner, or any other person, say what the Red Flag meant?

A. As I am bound before Almighty God, I do not know.

THOMAS BARRY, of the Monmouth.

Q. What time of the day was it that you stated to the Court respecting my firing the fore-castle gun of his Majesty's ship Monmouth at the Repulse, on shore, when attempting to get into Sheerness? A. About four o'clock in the afternoon.

Q. You stated to the Court, that you was confined by order of a man, whom you called Captain Vance; at what time did that confinement commence, and how long did it continue? A. I dare say, an hour and a half. It began about a quarter after four, and ended about a quarter before six.

Q. You related before my giving you a shove over the heel of the spare fore-top-mast, at what time did that transaction take place? A. Close upon four o'clock.

Q. Do you not think that it is possible for you, in the hurry and confusion of things on board the Monmouth, to have mistaken me for another person? A. No.

Q. At what time did the transaction of the crow-bar being introduced into a gun, with intent to be fired, which you have represented to have taken place, happen? A. About ten minutes before four o'clock.

Q. Was the person who introduced the crow-bar with part of his clothes off, or the whole of them on? A. His short or half coat was off; he had his waist-coat on.

Q. What time was it when the discourse you related took place between myself and the man you call Captain Vance? A. About half past four.

Capt. Moss. Is it within your knowledge that any boat escaped from the Monmouth the evening of her firing on the Repulse? A. No, I can't say; I don't know of any.

WILLIAM HOBBS, *Seaman of the Monmouth.*

Parker.---Take particular notice of me, and be certain that you know me.

Q. Do you know the Prisoner? A. I never saw him in my life to my knowledge.

Q. Where was you when the Monmouth fired on the Repulse? A. I was quartered on the fore-castle, but I was mostly between decks.

GEORGE NICHOLS, *Seaman of the Monmouth.*

Q. Do you know me? A. No, Sir, I do not.

Q. What part of the ship was you in when the Monmouth fired on the Repulse? A. I was quartered on the fore-castle, but never went up.

SAMUEL BEER.

Q. Do you know me? A. No, I do not. To my knowledge I never saw you.

Q. What part of the ship were you stationed in when the Monmouth fired at the Repulse? A. I was at the fore-castle. I was at my quarters part of the time, the rest between decks.

Pres. At what gun? A. The 2d on the fore-castle.

Q. How long did you remain on the fore-castle after the Monmouth commenced her fire on the Repulse? A. About a quarter of an hour.

Q. During the time you was on the fore-castle, did you observe any transaction of a crow-bar being introduced into a gun? A. No, I did not.

Court. How long did the firing last? A. I believe about an hour.

Pres. Have you any more evidence? A. I wish to call back Hollister.

HOLLISTER called in.

Q. Can you recollect any ways near the time of my quitting the Director, or the day before alluded to? A. It was some short time before the Repulse got afloat.

Q. Had not the Monmouth ceased firing? A. I believe she had.

Court. Which ceased firing first, the Director or the Monmouth? A. I cannot positively say which, I was below.

Q. Did the Director cease firing before the Repulse got off? A. I believe she did not.

Capt. Moss. How long had you been below at the time the Director was firing previous to the Repulse being afloat? A. My station being in the magazine, I went down for the safety of the ship. I was backwards and forwards. I cannot tell.

Q. Was you in the magazine from the commencement of the firing? A. Not all the time.

Q. How long after the commencement of the firing was it that you went into the magazine? A. About a quarter of an hour.

Q. How long did you remain there? A. About twenty minutes.

Q. Where did you go afterwards? A. I went up between decks; there was a great deal of powder between decks, and the matches were carelessly carrying about. I went to prevent any accident.

Q. How long did you remain between decks? A. Backwards and forwards, about three quarters of an hour.

Q. Where did you go after the firing ceased? A. I went upon the main deck after the firing ceased.

Q. Had the firing left off when you went on the main deck? A. Yes.

Q. At what hour was it when the Prisoner left the Director? A. It was late in the evening.

Q. Was it before or after sun-set? A. Somewhere near about sun-set.

Prisoner. I have no more evidence.

Pres. You should consider the very heavy charges against you; the Court will give you time.

Parker. I wish to be informed whether the Court can wait till to-morrow; there are several other things; I have not had an opportunity of stating several other matters; I could shew I was very forward in delivering up the Sandwich; I hope the Court will allow me the indulgence.

The President informed him it could not be granted.

The Prisoner withdrew.

The Court was then cleared, at half past one o'clock.

The Court having deliberated for two hours and a half, the Prisoner was called in; where the Deputy Judge Advocate read as follows: 'At a Court Martial held on board his Majesty's ship Neptune, of 98 guns, lying in the river Thames, on Thursday the 22d day of June, 1797, and continued by adjournment till the 26th of the same month--Present (Here the names of the Members were recited.) The Court, pursuant to an order of the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admirals directed to Sir Thomas Paisley, have proceeded to try Richard Parker, being a person belonging to his Majesty's Fleet, on a charge for having attempted to make Mutinous Assemblies on board of the Sandwich, and divers other vessels at the Nore; and also on a charge of having behaved with contempt to the Officers on duty, and having disobeyed his superior officers. The Court having heard witnesses in support of the charges, and also the Prisoner in his defence, and the evidence in support of what he has alleged in his defence, are unanimously of opinion, that the whole of the charges are fully proved, that the crime is as unprecedented as wicked, as ruinous to the Navy as to the Peace and Prosperity of the Country: the Court do therefore adjudge him to death, and he is ordered to suffer death accordingly, at such time and place as the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, or any three of them, shall appoint.

Parker, the Prisoner, with a degree of fortitude and undismayed composure which excited the astonishment and admiration of every one, spoke as follows:--'I bow to your sentence with all submission, being convinced I have acted from the dictates of a good conscience, for which I trust the hearts of all men will, I hope, receive me. I hope that my dear friends will be of service to the Country, and that those brave men who have died with me will receive a general pardon; I am satisfied they will all return to their duty with a purity.

President. It is in the breast of the Court to order you for execution immediately, but we think it better to give you time to repent your crime.

Prisoner. I return you my thanks for the indulgence.

The Court adjourned at half past four.

The pressure of the crowd to hear the defence of Parker was immense.

N. B. The account of the Prisoner's Execution will be found in the beginning of the Pamphlet.

The Trials and Memoirs of all the other Persons charged with Mutiny, together with the Proceedings of the different Fleets during the Existence of the Mutinies, will follow in the same manner; so that the whole, when completed, will form a faithful and useful History of an event unparalleled in the Naval Annals of this Country.

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